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Editor's Note

In the cut and thrust of partisan politics there is little time for those involved to step aside, to contemplate or ponder "where it's all going". In this issue of *Canadian Legislatures*, the Premiers of Canada's 10 provinces do exactly that: they pause to take a breath – to speak their minds about their jobs, their Legislatures, and their hopes for the provinces – and to ponder some of the deeper issues which are important to politicians and public alike. The resulting chapter, based on personal interviews with each of the Premiers, offers a rare insight into the thinking of those men whose approach to their jobs sets the style and standards for their provinces.

As in other years, *Canadian Legislatures* looks at the results of general elections held during the past year and highlights changes in the backgrounds of the men and women elected to office. The Study also contains updated legislative information covering remuneration paid to Members; administrative structures; support services; and other related statistics which so many of our readers find useful in identifying trends and comparing developments among provinces.

We feel that in past years, because statistics were outlined on a comparative basis only, readers were perhaps unable to get a general overview of the state of legislative administration in an individual province. This year, for the first time, we have included a section providing a concise overview of Legislatures in each jurisdiction in 1983.

In 1979 when *Canadian Legislatures* was first produced, very little general information was available about Legislatures, and certainly no benchmark existed against which the performance of individual provinces could be compared. The Study was conceived to fill this information gap and, as it has evolved, it has attracted a considerable following not only among those elected to or employed in Legislatures or Governments, but also those who must make it their business to have factual information at their fingertips – lawyers, librarians, businessmen, academics and government watchers in general.

It has been our experience that readers of *Canadian Legislatures* view the Study from a wide variety of perspectives, running the gamut from the pragmatic to the philosophical. The Honourable Gerald S. Merrithew, Minister of Natural Resources and Government House Leader for New Brunswick wrote: "This is extremely interesting and useful in my role as House Leader and as a member of the Legislative Administrative Committee". At the other end of the spectrum Dr. Austin Ranney, Resident Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research in Washington, D.C., saw *Canadian Legislatures* as "Invaluable work . . . . Somebody needs to be thinking hard about the future".

We would like to express our appreciation to the Speaker of the Ontario Legislature, The Honourable John M. Turner; the Members of the Board of Internal Economy; and the Premier of Ontario, The Honourable William G. Davis, for their interest and encouragement in the annual Study.

We see *Canadian Legislatures* as far from an academic exercise, but as part of a building process which is happening in Legislatures across the country. It's purpose

is multifaceted: to exchange information, and in so doing to help improve the administration of Legislatures; to serve as a medium for charting new trends and developments; and to assist in strengthening the parliamentary fabric.

There is a good deal of talk these days about "the need for legislative change and reform". We don't dispute this. However, from our vantage point we have witnessed a great deal of progress, particularly during the past five years, in every Legislature. Change is not always fast, because the institutional checks and balances are vital deterrents which preserve the public interest. But slow progress is still progress. As some Premiers pointed out, perhaps it's a case of leaders and followers each acknowledging the greatness of our parliamentary system, while at the same time accepting that it has imperfections which can be remedied with an open mind and a solid commitment.

Robert J. Fleming, *Editor*
J. Thomas Mitchinson, *Assistant Editor*
Toronto, Canada
December 15, 1983.

Foreword

Provincial Legislatures and Governments have changed greatly since the turn of the century, when most of the ornate legislative buildings which dot the Canadian landscape from Halifax to Victoria came into existence. Then Legislatures sat for relatively short periods of time. When the House was in session, elected Members took leave of their various occupations and traveled to the seat of government. As compensation for being away from their place of work, they received an "indemnity", a term which is still used today. The business of government was put through the House with dispatch and the Members quickly returned to their homes and jobs.

In the early part of the century, there were few Ministers or Ministries, and only a small cadre of civil servants whose task it was to implement the laws passed by the Legislature. There were relatively few government programs and those that did exist could be administered without an elaborate bureaucracy.

Service, either as an elected Member or a civil servant, was considered to be a significant position, a vocation rather than a career. The Legislature itself, with its traditions emanating from the Mother of Parliaments in Westminster, radiated a certain sense of pride, dignity and decorum. Political loyalties were strong and a high percentage of voter turn-out at election time reflected the importance and esteem the Legislature held in the minds of the public.

The Legislature was then closer to the people than it is today. Cabinet Ministers had a more direct personal involvement in the business of their Government departments, and the Legislature itself played a more active and extensive role in the legislative process.

Later in this Study, Premier Richard Hatfield of New Brunswick refers to what he terms the "magnitude of democracy" which pervades Canada in 1983, and the difficulties of administering a complex and diversified government. Perhaps better than anything else this phrase illustrates the extraordinary changes which have taken place during the past 100 years in both Legislatures and Governments and in their interrelationships.

Canada near the turn of the century had a population of fewer than 5 million people. By 1920 this had climbed to 7 million; to 11 million by 1945; and to 25 million in 1983.

In the inaugural Houses of the first 9 provinces to join Confederation (excluding Newfoundland), there were a total of approximately 400 Members. By 1945 this figure had risen to 500, and in 1983 to 698.

In the early part of this century, the combined number of sitting days for all the provincial Legislatures was approximately 400 days per year. Even by 1945 this figure had risen to only 408. However, in 1982, Legislatures sat for a total of almost 800 days.

When the first provincial parliaments were constituted in each province, the maximum number of members of the Executive Council in any province was nine. However, by 1982, seven of the 10 provinces had Cabinets consisting of 20 or more Members, with three of these exceeding 25. The total number of provincial Cabinet Ministers in all jurisdictions in 1945 was 100. By 1982 this figure had risen to 212, an increase of 112%.

Records in many provinces are inconclusive with

respect to the number of civil servants prior to 1945, however by that date there were slightly over 46,000. In 1982, according to Statistics Canada, this figure had increased by almost 9 times to 396,000.

In 1920, the total Budgets of all provinces came to just over $100 million. By 1945, this figure stood at $440 million and had risen to about $75,000 million in 1983, an increase of 750 times over the 1920 figure.

These figures show the substantial growth in the size, power and influence of the Government, and serve to illustrate the magnitude of its scope and structure.

A different but related concern is the recognition of the Legislature as a separate entity, distinct from the Government. Both institutions have entirely different but complementary roles: the Government to determine policies and priorities for the province and to introduce legislation to implement them; the Legislature to debate the Government's legislation offering both constructive criticism and support, and finally, if it is the will of the majority, to pass legislation into law. Because the Executive is made up of people who also hold positions of elected legislators, it is easy for the functions to be blurred, especially when the governing party holds a majority of seats. If the role of the Legislature is to act, in the words of Lord Lloyd George as the "sounding board of the nation" and represent the collective will of the public, the Members who make up the Legislature must have an effective and independent voice in legislative proceedings.

It should be of concern to all Canadians that a lack of understanding of the fundamental purposes of both the Legislature and Government has taken place in recent years, to such an extent that many of those working in Legislatures, Government bureaucrats and even some academics tend to view the two institutions as one and the same.

In 1973 the Ontario Commission on the Legislature reflected on this problem: "There is a recognizable current in public opinion which believes that once a government's leadership is determined at a general election, then that leadership "runs" the province with a minimum of interference until the next election. When this opinion is pushed too far, it leaves an inconsequential role in the Legislature for the ordinary Member supporting the Government and only a peripheral, critical role for Members of parties in Opposition.

"If this viewpoint has wide support and becomes pervasive there tends to be a dimunition in the role of the Legislature. Debates rife with criticism of the Government and votes on Appropriations and Bills become empty formalities to fill time. The right of Members, individually or in concert by Party, to move amendments or to take initiatives (within the traditional limitation that only a Minister of the Crown may introduce a spending motion) becomes a hollow ritual."

The importance of the delicate interaction between Legislatures and Governments was a common theme raised by the Premiers. In some cases they went so far as to offer a personal commitment to redress the present imbalance between a strong and vibrant Government and a Legislature which they said has not always received the same attention.

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THE PREMIERS

THE PREMIERS: *Members of the Legislature*

Canada's provincial Premiers are in a unique position to speak about the Legislature as an institution, for in reality they wear two hats – elected member, and chief representative of the party in power and leader of the Government. For that reason *Canadian Legislatures* decided to meet with and photograph each of the ten men who, although not involved on a day to day basis with the inner workings of the Legislature, nevertheless hold the key to determining the future style and quality of parliamentary government at the provincial level in Canada.

The line of questioning in each interview remained the same. None of the questions were designed as "headline grabbers". Instead, they related to the very heart of provincial legislative institutions which, if they are to keep pace in a changing world, need the closest attention of those most intimately involved.

The Premiers were generous with their time. Their courtesy and interest were unfailing. In one case the deliberations of Cabinet were held up in order to complete the interview. One Premier insisted on keeping the conversation going far longer than expected as he unwound and voiced some of his deeply felt concerns. Another, as the meeting drew to a close, quite unexpectedly praised the purpose behind the interviews, referring to them as "enormously important work".

THE QUESTIONS

The Legislature and its Image

The first question concerned the important role of the Legislature and its Members in Canadian society. If the Legislature represents the 'heart of parliamentary democracy', what can be done to invigorate the institution and boost its public image.

Premier Hatfield thought that, "in order to be perceived in a positive light, the Legislature and its Members must be seen as managing their affairs responsibly." If the public are to be attracted not only to the Legislature but to government in general, they have to see clear policies, direction and vision. "On top of this", he said, "I as Premier have to remain accessible to the people. That's what is's all about."

Premier Lee felt the image problem was not as great in smaller provinces such as P.E.I.: "Government is closer to the people here. I have a good feeling about the interaction between Members of the Legislature,

and Chief Executives of Government

the Government and the people", he said.

In Premier Davis' view the question of image had to be kept in perspective: "Today all institutions are under fire – whether it's a sporting association, a business or most any other organization – and the Legislature is no exception. There will always be those who criticize institutions . . ."

Premier Lévesque felt one important step had been taken in Québec by the amendment of rules governing the financing of political parties: "Also, we are presently conducting a public debate on the electoral system while, at the same time, a long process of parliamentary reform is under way." The Premier expressed the hope that as a result of these reforms the Legislature would become closer to the people.

Premier Peckford said he had asked himself the same question before becoming Premier: "As a result I decided to streamline the rules of Debates and involve Members in more effective use of legislative time. This meant establishing a Fall Session which was restricted totally to legislation, and creating more Standing and Select Committees." He said the people of Newfoundland had become much closer to their provincial representatives: "The public is beginning to understand that we are actually doing something to broaden the role of Members and that the Legislature is very important to their lives."

As far as Premier Lougheed was concerned, the Legislature is the "corner stone of parliamentary democracy and it is essential to our way of life that the Legislature as an institution be heightened in the mind of the public". According to Mr. Lougheed, the media are primarily responsible for the adversarial image of the House. In his opinion it was never intended that all issues be decided on party lines or by confrontation. In his view reporters are reluctant to cover any non-controversial issues and the public is left with a distorted view of what actually happens in the Legislature.

Premier Buchanan pointed out that some people fail to understand what parliamentary debate is all about. "I think some people try to dismiss certain aspects of politicians' work as 'child's play', but there's a very definite process at work. As a part of this, people do get angry and wave their hands, but they're human beings like anyone else. I doubt if the day will ever come when that will end." In attempting to assess the image of the Legislature in Nova Scotia the Premier

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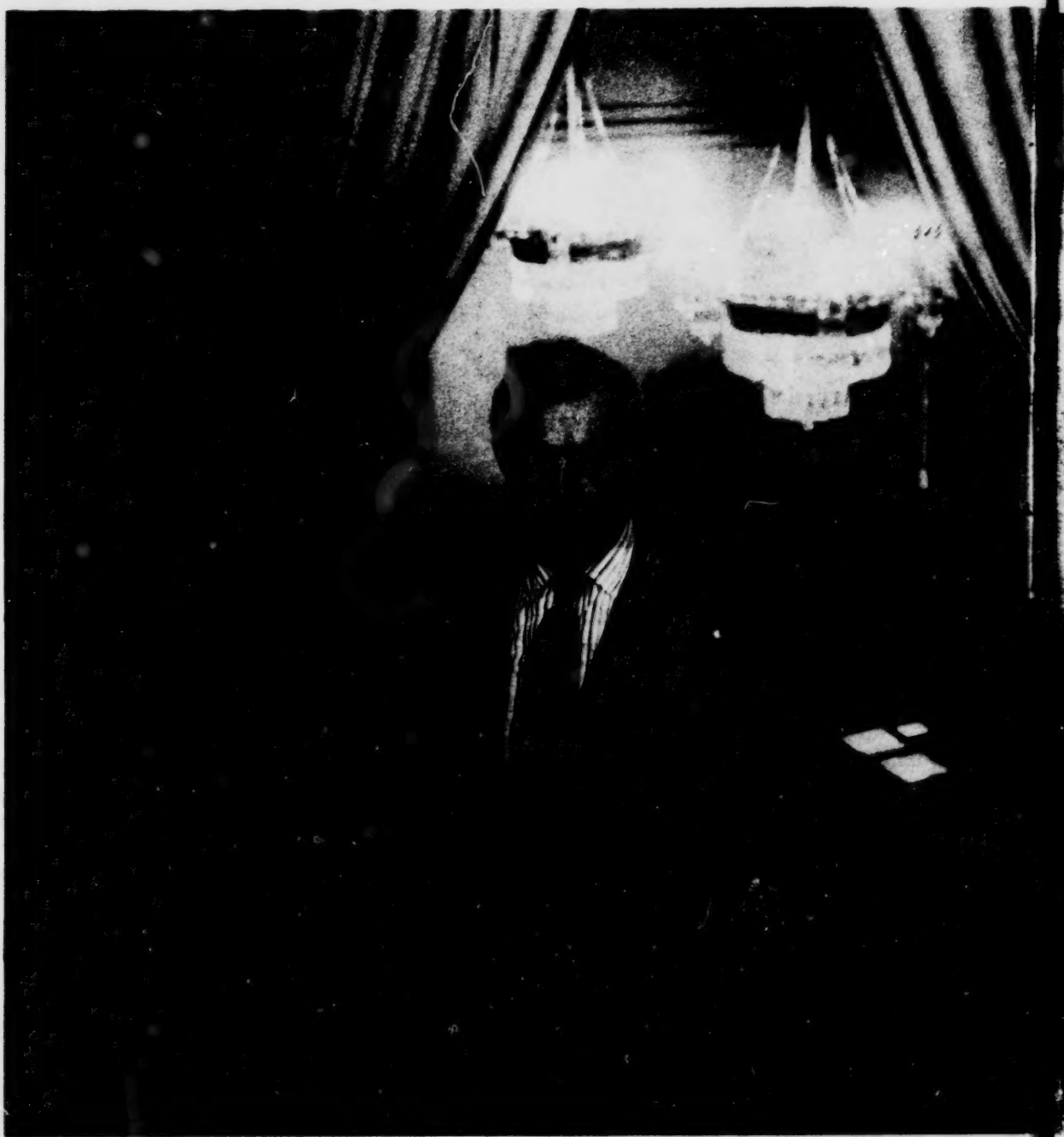


New Brunswick

THE HONOURABLE RICHARD BENNETT HATFIELD, P.C., B.A., LL.B.
Birthplace: Woodstock, N.B., 1931. *Education:* Hartland High School; Rothesay Collegiate; Acadia University; Dalhousie Law School. *Professional background:* Sales Manager, Hatfield Industries, Ltd. *First elected:* 1961. *Named Premier:* November 12, 1970.

"It seems to me that it is now time for all of us to put aside petty differences and work for the good of the country. It's terrible to think there's so much talk that is irrelevant to the issues which have to be resolved in Canada."

"Today, all institutions are under fire – whether it's a sporting association, a business or most any other organization – and the Legislature is no exception. There will always be those who criticize institutions . . ."

Ontario

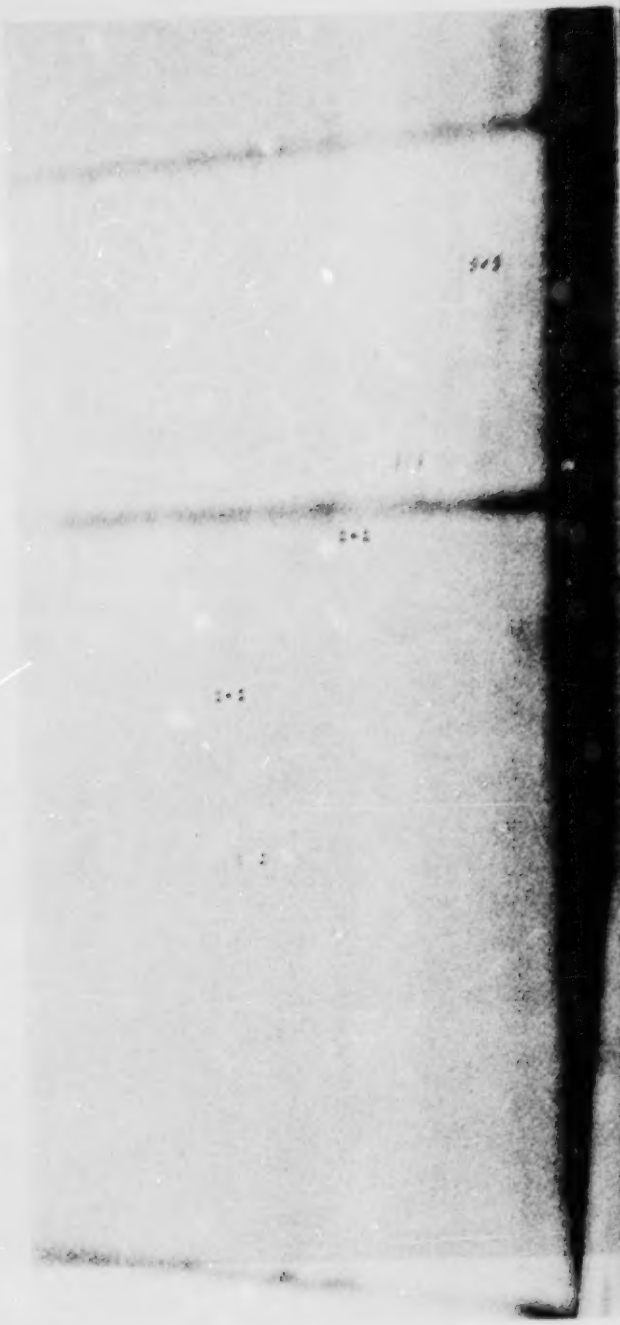
THE HONOURABLE WILLIAM GRENVILLE DAVIS, P.C., Q.C.
Birthplace: Brampton, Ontario, 1929. *Education:* Brampton High School; University of Toronto; Osgoode Hall. *Professional background:* Lawyer. *First elected:* 1959. *Cabinet Portfolios:* Education and University Affairs, 1962 – 1971. *Named Premier:* March 1, 1971.

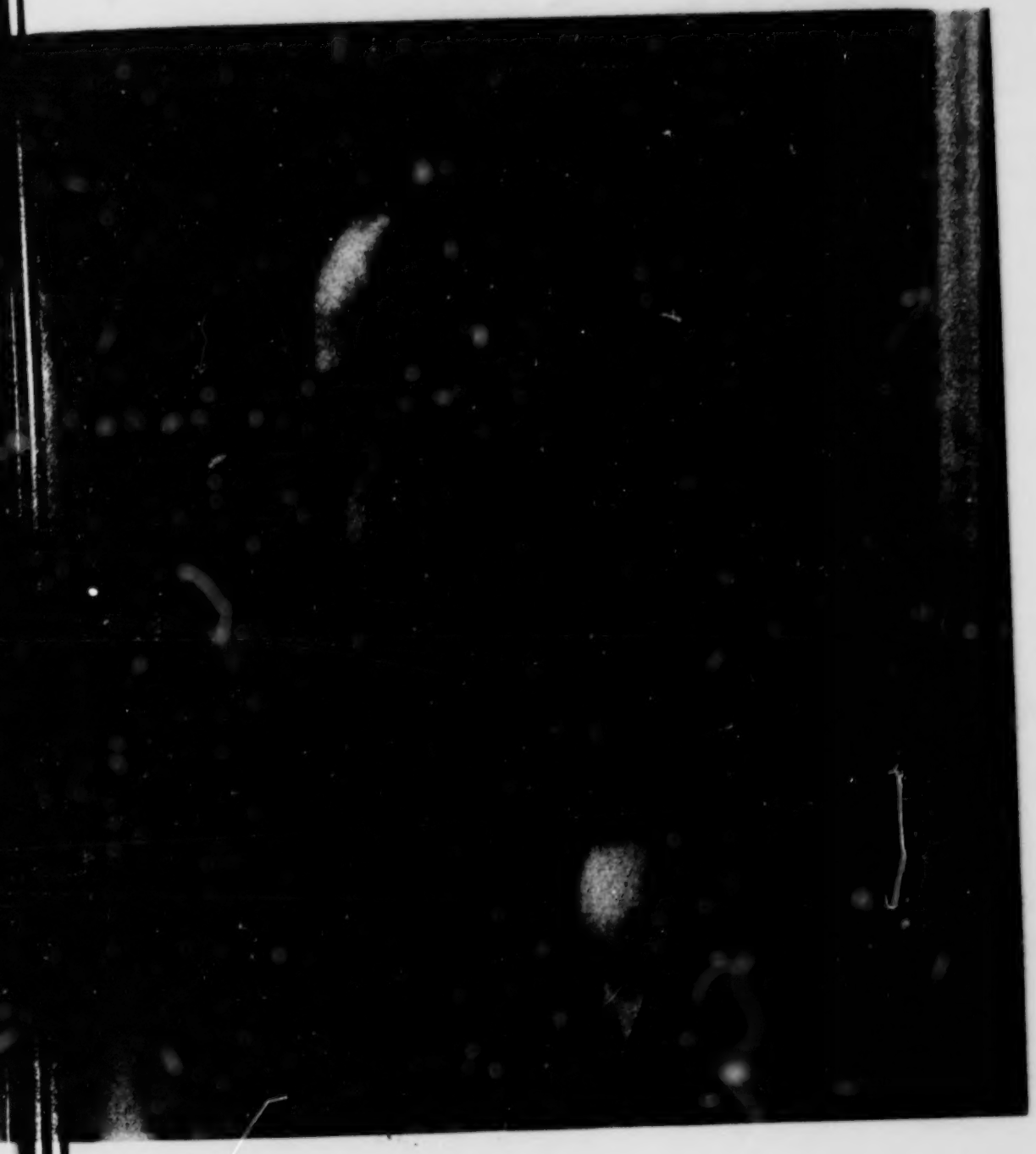
Alberta

THE HONOURABLE E. PETER LOUGHEED, P.C., B.A., LL.B., M.B.A.
Birthplace: Calgary, Alberta, 1928. *Education:* Earl Grey and Rideau Park Schools, and Central High School, Calgary; University of Alberta, Edmonton; Harvard University. *Professional background:* Lawyer. *First elected:* 1967. *Named Premier:* September 10, 1971.

"I am a strong believer that the First Ministers' Conferences need to be institutionalized, but as well we as Premiers need more unstructured time together, more time to talk, to braintrust."

"Managing Government is like managing your own household. If you don't make tough decisions today things could be worse tomorrow. It's a case of making choices while you still have the chance."

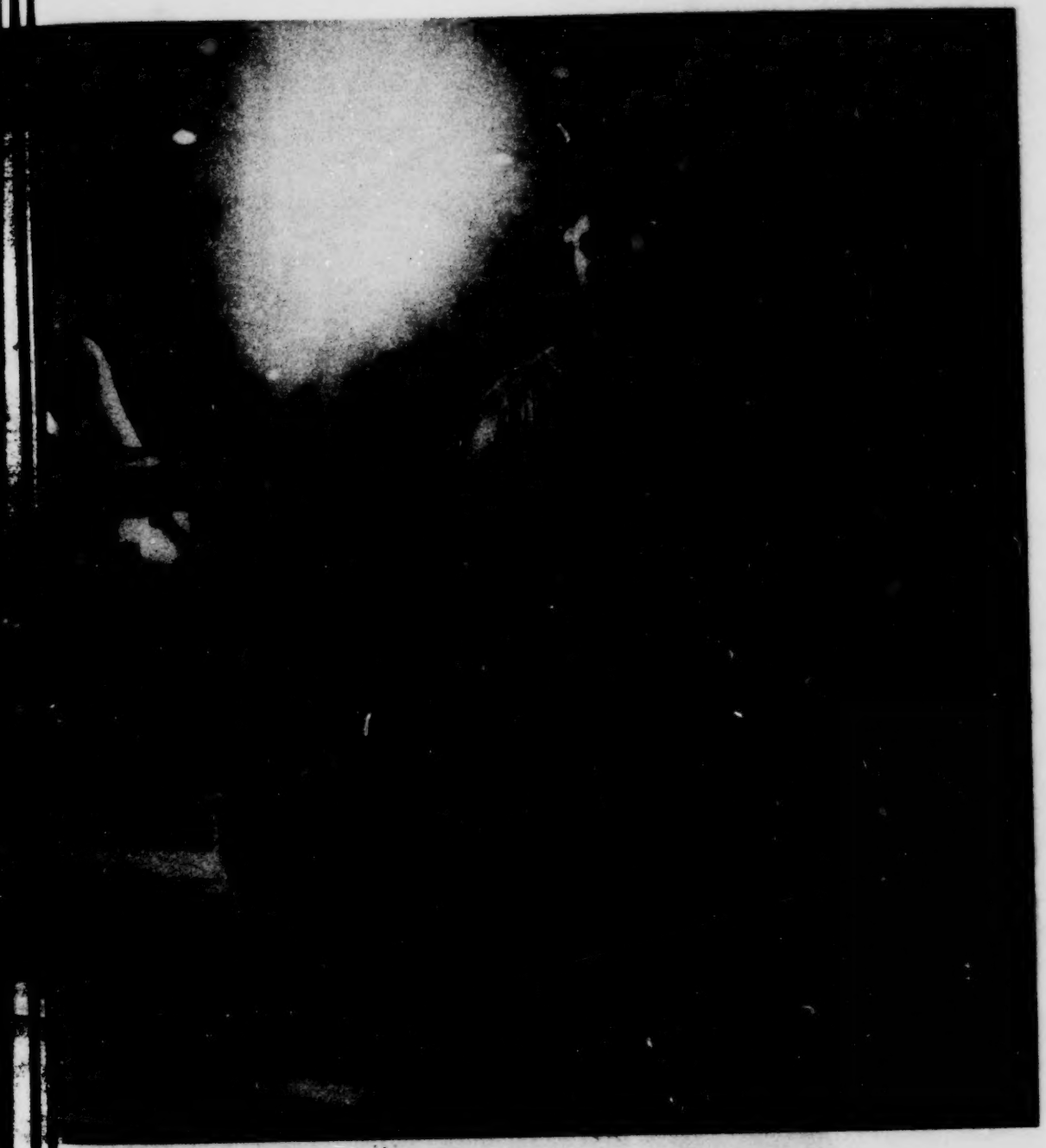




British Columbia

THE HONOURABLE WILLIAM RICHARDS BENNETT, P.C.
Birthplace: Kelowna, B.C., 1932. *Education:* Kelowna High School. *Professional background:* Businessman. *First elected:* 1973.
Cabinet Portfolios: Energy, Transportation and Communications, 1978 – 1979. *Named Premier:* December 22, 1975.

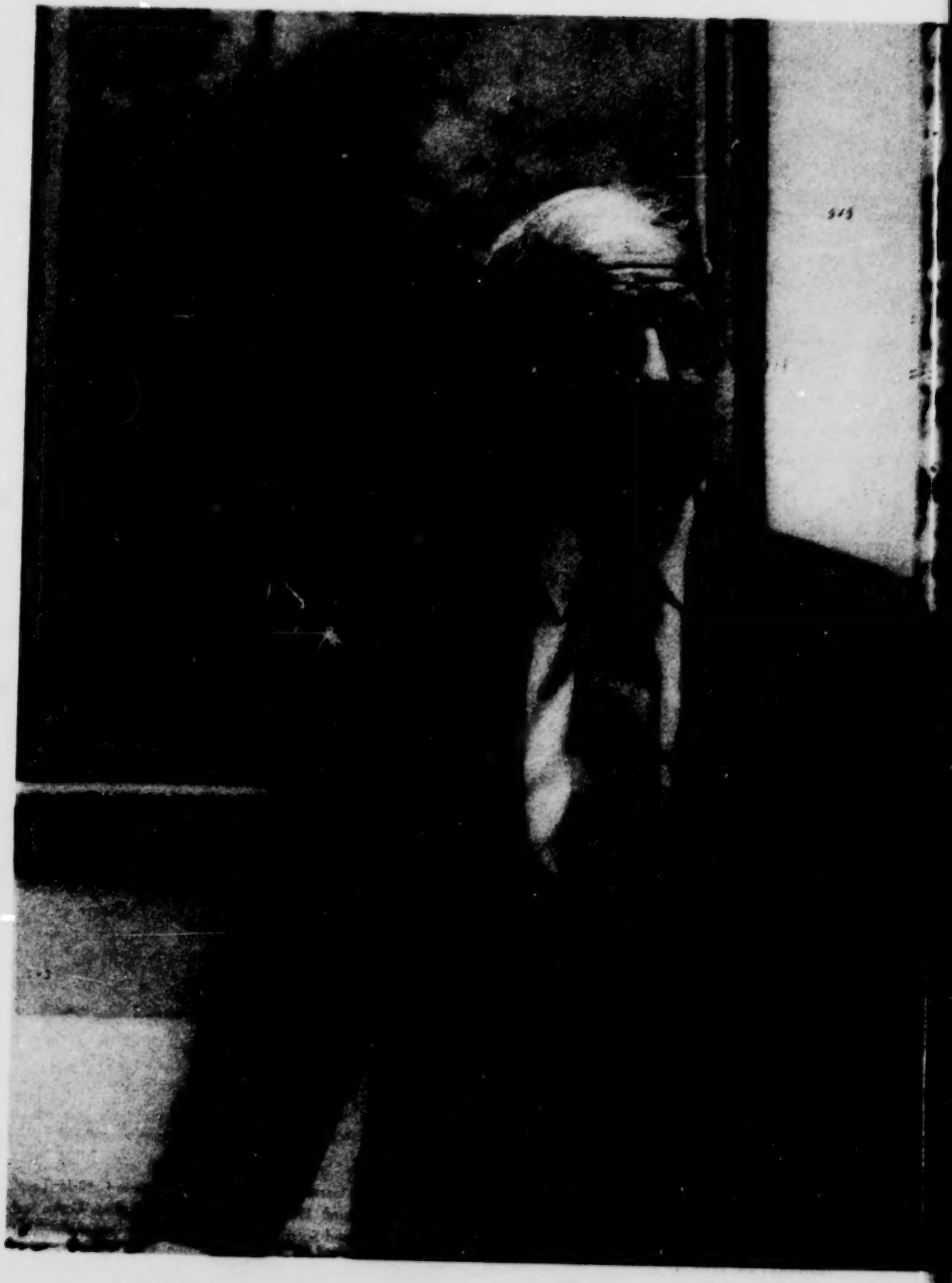
"The new Committees . . . will allow backbenchers from both sides of the House to play a major role, especially in areas of control, or requests for studies or enquiries. The Committees will thus divide their time between mandates assigned to them by the Government and the initiatives that they will choose to take."



Québec

THE HONOURABLE RENÉ LÉVESQUE, B.A.

Birthplace: New Carlisle, Québec, 1922. ***Education:*** Gaspe and Charles Garnier Secondary Schools, New Carlisle; Laval University, Québec City. ***Professional background:*** Journalist. ***First elected:*** 1960. ***Cabinet Portfolios:*** Public Works and Hydraulic Resources, 1960; Natural Resources, 1961 – 1965; Family and Social Welfare, 1965 – 1966. ***Named Premier:*** November 25, 1976.

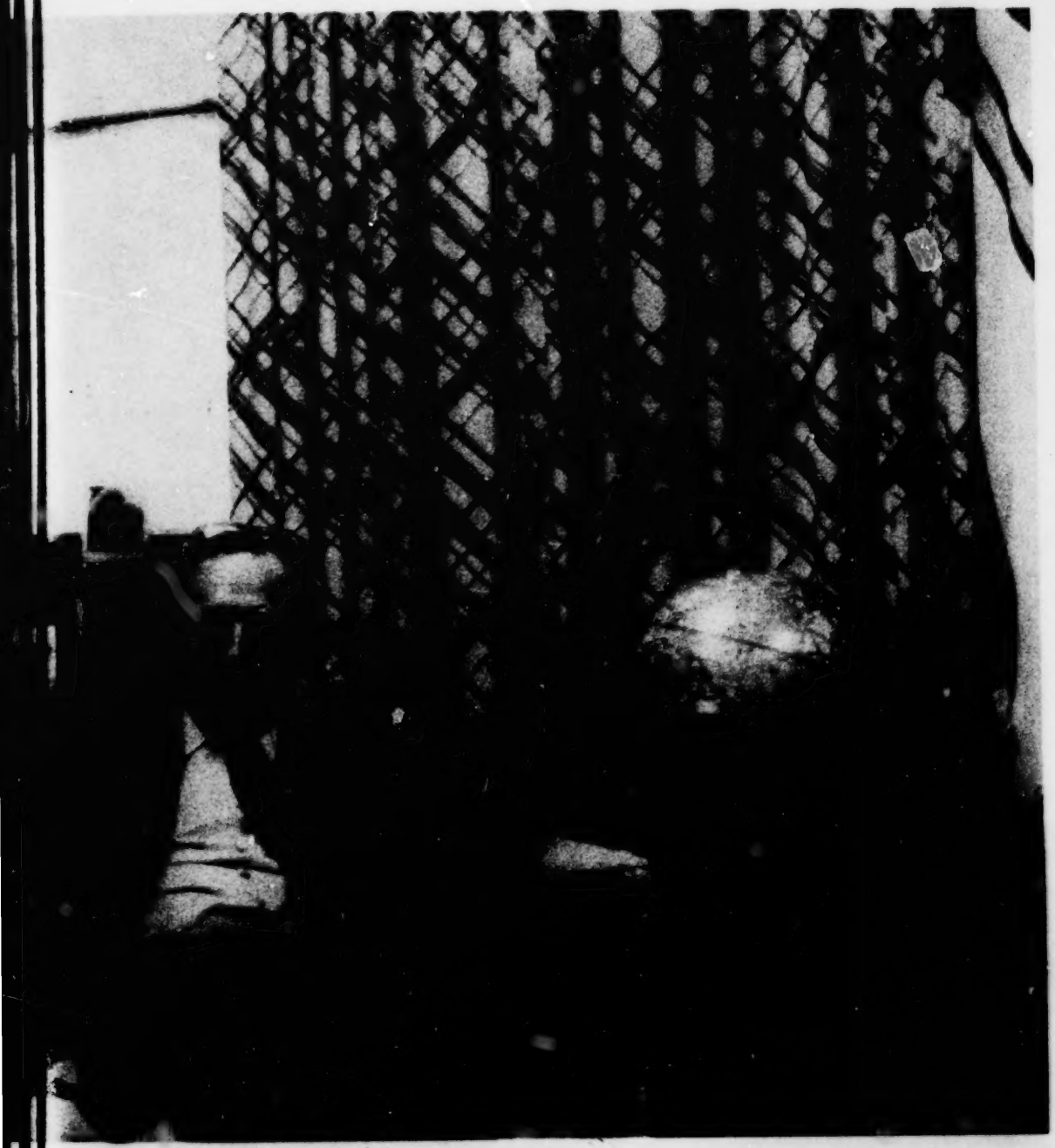


"The Legislature is far better known than it was ten to twenty years ago. Today the public are not only aware of what's going on in the House, they're participating and that's a great step forward."

Nova Scotia

THE HONOURABLE JOHN MACLENNAN BUCHANAN, P.C., B.SC., LL.B., Q.C., D. ENG., D.C.L.
Birthplace: **Sydney, Nova Scotia, 1931.** ***Education:*** **Sydney Academy; Mount Allison University; Dalhousie University.** ***Professional background:*** **Lawyer.** ***First elected:*** **1967.** ***Cabinet Portfolios:*** **Public Works and Fisheries, 1969 - 1970; Finance, 1978 - 1979; Intergovernmental Affairs, 1981 .** ***Named Premier:*** **October 5, 1978.**

"We as politicians should be giving the leadership, getting down to the real business that confronts all of us, that's the point."



Newfoundland and Labrador

THE HONOURABLE ALFRED BRIAN PECKFORD, P.C., B.A.

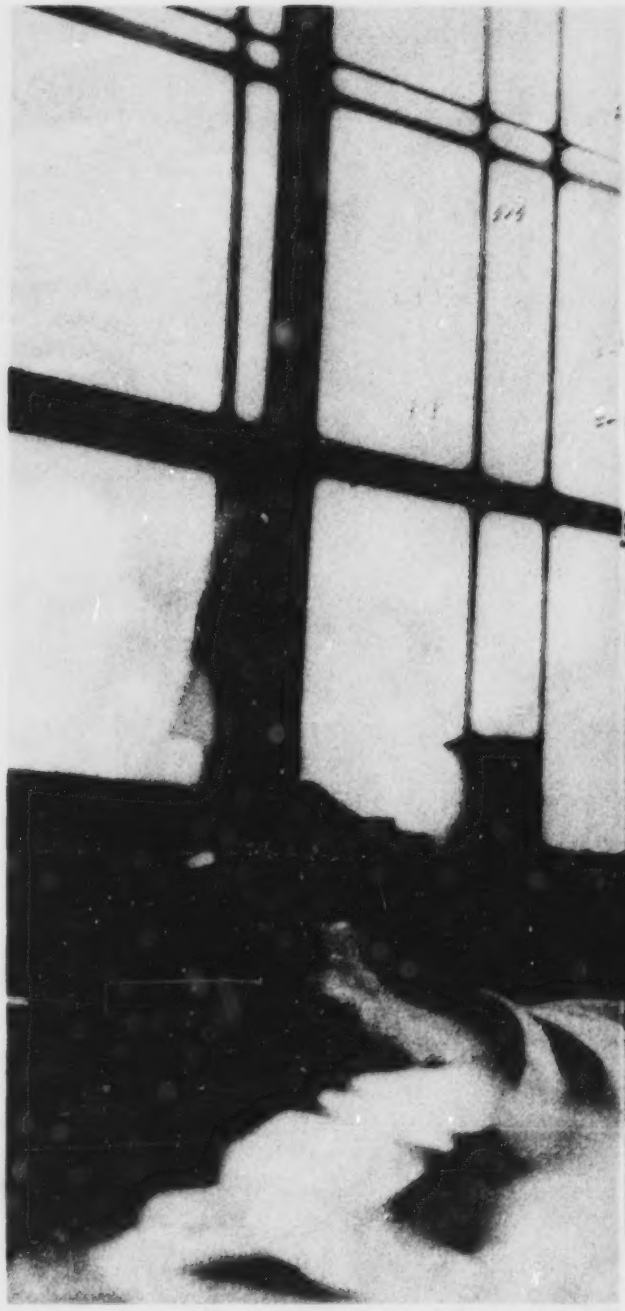
Birthplace: Whitbourne, Newfoundland, 1942. *Education:* At schools in Whitbourne, Marystown, Lewisporte and Toronto; Memorial University. *Professional background:* High School Teacher. *First elected:* 1972. *Cabinet Portfolios:* Municipal Affairs and Housing, 1975–1976; Mines and Energy, 1976; Intergovernmental Affairs, 1979. *Named Premier:* March 26, 1979.

"Manitoba used to be a very significant province in Confederation. I want to emphasize the potential of this province for Canada and the world to see."

Manitoba

THE HONOURABLE HOWARD RUSSELL PAWLEY, P.C., Q.C., B.A., LL.B.
Birthplace: Brampton, Ontario, 1934. *Education:* Brampton High School; Manitoba Teachers College; University of Winnipeg; Manitoba Law School. *Professional background:* Lawyer. *First elected:* 1969. *Cabinet Portfolios:* Public Works and Urban Development, 1969–1971; Municipal Affairs, 1969–1976; Attorney General, 1973; Minister Responsible for the Liquor Act, 1976; Federal Provincial Relations, 1981–. *Named Premier:* November 30, 1981.

"We as Premiers should be able to go to other provinces and explain our concerns directly to the elected Members in those provinces . . . if this could happen every few years I think a great deal could be accomplished."



Saskatchewan

THE HONOURABLE DONALD GRANT DEVINE, B.SC., M.SC., M.B.A., PH.D.
Birthplace: Regina, Saskatchewan, 1944. *Education:* University of Saskatchewan; University of Alberta; Ohio State University. *Professional background:* University Professor and Farmer. *First elected:* 1982. *Cabinet Portfolios:* Energy and Mines, 1983. *Named Premier:* May 8, 1982.

"We play hardball politics here. People know why they are Conservatives or Liberals. This represents certain values that go back in families for generations. We're not just thinking about the next leadership convention; there's a much deeper feeling. People want solid policies."

Prince Edward Island

THE HONOURABLE JAMES MATTHEW LEE, P.C.
Birthplace: Charlottetown, P.E.I, 1937. *Education:* Queen's Square School; St. Dunstans University. *Professional background:* Realtor. *First elected:* 1975. *Cabinet Portfolios:* Social Services; and Tourism, Parks and Conservation, 1979; Health and Social Services, 1980. *Named Premier:* October 28, 1982.

saw it as "far better known than it was ten or twenty years ago. I have to confess that when I was first elected I'd never been in the building before – it had a very low profile. But today the public are not only quite aware of what goes on in the House; they're participating and that's a great step forward".

Premier Bennett looked at the image of the British Columbia Legislature in light of his Province's economic situation: "In general", he said, "our primary attention is directed at creating a Legislature that represents all the people it serves. Elected Members must have the ability to adequately answer the needs of their constituents and of course any cutbacks our Government makes will not interfere with this. It is important that the public knows the Legislature works."

The role of the backbencher

In recent years, the Committee system has been the vehicle used by many provinces to enhance the role of Members as legislators, in addition to their responsibilities as constituency representatives. The Premiers considered how the Committee system could be further refined and strengthened.

Premier Lévesque said that in the past backbenchers had "played a very minor role in the National Assembly". However, he outlined the details of the new Committee system, established in response to the report from Denis Vaugeois, M.N.A., entitled "The National Assembly in Evolution": "The new Committees which will be set up between now and the Christmas adjournment will allow backbenchers from both sides of the House to play a major role, especially in areas of control or requests for studies or inquiries." He said the Committees would "divide their time between the mandates assigned to them by the Government and the initiatives that they will choose to take". This is the first time that Legislative Committees in any province have been given the power to initiate their own business.

Premier Peckford said he believed strongly in the development of the Committee system as "a way to allow Members to participate more fully in the decision-making process". He cited the example of the Select Committee which is at present investigating Election Financing and pointed out that the Committee's report will form the basis of revisions to the present Act. At the same time Mr. Peckford recognized that "you are really breaking new ground in Newfoundland by talking about giving new powers to Members and Committees, and we had better be prepared to deal with the fact that there will be more and more public interest and involvement as well".

As far as P.E.I. was concerned, Premier Lee saw the constituency service and legislative aspects of a Member's job "nicely wrapped into one". He explained that on a number of occasions Committees have been used to analyse issues prior to the introduction of legislation. In this way it was possible to achieve some degree of consensus between both parties in the development of policy. The Premier cited transportation and energy matters as examples of areas that are so important to the overall economy of P.E.I. that Members from both parties should be able to temper their partisanship and approach the issues "as Prince Edward Islanders first, who must do what's right for the Province".

Premier Hatfield felt there was a great deal of talk going on across the country about the 'role of the backbencher': "Everybody's saying a way has to be found for backbenchers to have a more meaningful existence . . . they have been given better pay, and better services, but are they any closer to the constituent?", he asked. In Mr. Hatfield's opinion "you could fill up 365 days of the year with legislative sittings, but if you only have 3 months you work harder, faster and more effectively". In examining the job of the backbencher, Mr. Hatfield said he thought such questions as Committee staffing had to be analyzed. "I am not in favour of hiring more staff for the Committees. Members are the ones who should be doing the thinking". Turning to the Members' role in the House, Mr. Hatfield said, "there's a tendency these days for legislators to support all sorts of causes and to get space in the media by doing it. But if we're honest is that the real job of a legislator?"

Mr. Hatfield thought backbenchers were trying to expand their role because of "frustration with the Cabinet decision-making process". He felt backbenchers needed more focus to their role. However, to accomplish this the media would have to be willing to report and reflect on concrete legislative developments rather than spotlighting Cabinet star performers, confrontation and scandal. The backbench Member could thereby gain more recognition, but "without media understanding and awareness" this is unlikely to happen. At the same time Mr. Hatfield would discourage the use of Private Members Public Bills, which he saw as "a mechanism which would be used for political rather than constructive purposes. In New Brunswick at least, the Order Paper would be flooded with Bills, making the Session last longer and serving no constructive purpose". Mr. Hatfield pointed to some very valuable work done by Committees, such as the Select Committee which looked into possible seat-belt legislation in the Province, and the comprehensive in-

vestigation of family law reform undertaken by the Law Amendment Committee before the *Family Law Reform Act* was amended. The Premier thought that Committees such as these had helped expose Members to various facets of life in the Province, giving them an opportunity to acquire a broader perspective on issues. On the whole, he felt that through Committee work Members had become willing to take a "more independent stand" on issues.

Premier Davis was against any changes which might lead to an American style of Government. "We have Committees in the House and they have a valuable role to play, but I wouldn't favour anything resembling the staffing and resources of Congressional Committees".

Premier Bennett was equally firm: "I'm a great believer in the British Parliamentary system–it's the best in an imperfect world. Canadians are going to have to decide between the British system which has served us well and the American system. If people want to look towards the U.S. for parliamentary procedures it will be the end of what we know."

In Premier Devine's view "the point is to get on with the real job of making our Province and Canada what it's meant to be. It is a case of cutting through bureaucratic red tape and simplifying, simplifying". He advocated any reforms in the system which would allow more active involvement of backbench Members. In this regard he related steps taken by the Saskatchewan Government Caucus which has established special Caucus committees corresponding to subject areas covered by the Cabinet Committees. He saw merit in expanding the mandate of Standing Committees in Saskatchewan to enable them to review Government Bills and Estimates, as is done in some other provinces.

Premiers Devine and Pawley both agreed that Private Members could be involved in task forces investigating issues important not only to their own province, but to the country as a whole. Mr. Devine thought great benefit could be gained by Committees of Private Members travelling to other provinces to consider various interprovincial issues with their elected peers.

Premier Pawley was excited about "the new contribution Manitoba can make to Canada". He has plans to increase research grants to the Caucuses so that Members can operate from the broadest possible perspective. At present Committees in Manitoba do not review Estimates, but the Premier saw this as a further way to involve backbenchers.

Premier Buchanan's view was that Nova Scotia has too many Committees (15 Standing and 5 Select in 1983, which is more than any other province). According to Mr. Buchanan, Committees often undertake valuable work, but their achievements are often overshadowed by "political grandstanding" on the part of Members.

Premier Lougheed admitted, "it is harder to make the Legislative Committee system work in Alberta" due to the size of the Government's majority and the manpower limitations of a Legislature with only four Opposition Members. He said that as a result there is a tendency for the media to see the Government backbencher as "the mouthpiece of Cabinet". The Premier emphasized that in Alberta, "key decisions on policy other than budgetary decisions are made in Caucus, not Cabinet". In this connection he cited the extensive use of the Caucus Committee System and task force concept. In general, Mr. Lougheed, said his philosophy is that "the backbencher in Alberta has a lot to offer in terms of conveying the views of the electorate, and a great deal of effort should be expended to tap this resource and make the backbencher feel he is playing a significant role."

Politics and Non-Partisanship

There have been times when various Legislatures have taken non-partisan approaches to important national issues. For instance, in 1980 and 1981 Special or Select Committees on the Constitution were formed in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta. The Ontario and Alberta Committees travelled throughout Canada. As well, debates on the Constitution issue took place in various provincial Houses, providing an opportunity for all Members to express their personal views on the future of the country and to take part in debate on a non-partisan basis. There have been other occasions when Members of provincial Houses discussed issues which were of vital importance to the province and transcended strictly partisan interests, (e.g. the 1981 Alberta Select Committee on Surface Rights which visited 44 communities and heard briefs from 156 organizations and 57 individuals).

The Premiers put their minds to the issue of political partisanship and considered those occasions when partisanship could be set aside to accommodate national or strongly held provincial goals.

Premier Devine said he was skeptical about the usefulness of a non-partisan approach. "Politicians are politicians, and if you give them a forum it's hard to ask them to set aside their partisan views". According to Mr. Devine, the possible exception would be issues which have a strictly "Canadian interest", or "special provincial interest". Examples he raised were the Constitutional Debate and the recent Crow's Nest Pass

Debate which took place in the Saskatchewan House.

In Prince Edward Island, Premier Lee pointed out that, although his Government does introduce legislation on its own, it usually tries to obtain the views of Members of the Legislature and the public first. He cited the example of the *Land Protection Act* which became law in 1982 after a Legislative Committee travelled throughout the Province soliciting public input, and submitted a unanimous report including a draft Bill. At the same time Premier Lee admitted, "we play hardball politics here. People know why they are Conservatives or Liberals. The party affiliation represents certain values that go back in families for generations. We're not just thinking about the next leadership convention; there's a much deeper feeling. People want solid policies".

Premier Davis felt that Select Committees have done some valuable work in Ontario, and raised the example of the week-long Debate in the House on the Constitution as an instance where Members of all parties had been able to set aside partisan concerns. Nevertheless, "there are very few issues which lend themselves to long-range non-partisan consideration". He thought politicians were basically interested in short-range solutions: "It's fine to talk about trying to find ways of looking down the road on a non-partisan basis at various issues which may have to be resolved in Ontario, but I think it's unrealistic. The Opposition will see it as an opportunity to make political hay, and I must say I don't blame them. You simply can't deal with the long-term goals without considering the short-term realities".

Premier Buchanan said that a Special Committee of the Nova Scotia House was currently involved in what amounts to a non-partisan examination of the effect of off-shore exploration on the fishery, other related industry and the Nova Scotia economy in general. Public hearings are being held and a report will be made to the Legislature which could form the basis of draft legislation. According to Mr. Buchanan, these are issues which concern everyone in the Province and should be looked at in the broadest possible way. And he pointed out that by belonging to these Special Committees, Private Members from all parties have "a far greater opportunity to participate in the formulation of legislation".

According to Premier Peckford, "strong partisan political debate is a part of life in Newfoundland, but there are times when all of us as legislators should put this aside in an effort to do what's right for the Province". Major issues affecting the economic future of Newfoundland, such as the fishery and oil resources, were examples he raised. "At the same time", Mr. Peckford said, "I question whether the public is best served by too much of the consensus approach. In many cases an adversarial approach may provide better results". In his opinion, "we, as politicians should be providing the leadership, getting down to the real business. That's the point".

Premier Pawley saw limitations to a non-partisan approach to issues, due to the extreme "polarization" of the Manitoba House. He said a number of suggestions put forward by the Government to cut across partisan lines had been rebuffed, although there had been consensus on the Crow's Nest Pass Debate in the House.

In the case of Québec, Premier Lévesque felt: "it is very difficult to get the House to abandon its partisan spirit. There would have to be a change of mentality". He added that since Legislative Committees have the right to examine policy prior to the introduction of legislation, "it is obvious that the Party line will be affected."

Mr. Hatfield felt that unfortunately it is difficult to expect political parties to engage in debates where there is "no political mileage to be made". As an example he cited the Constitution Resolution endorsing two official languages in New Brunswick. According to the Premier, the Opposition were in agreement with the resolution, so declined to participate in the Debate; they merely voted in favour when the time came. Mr. Hatfield said he was "a great believer in caucus solidarity" but at the same time, he agreed that, "on certain occasions, if the Leaders could agree to put partisanship aside, a great deal could be achieved".

Premier Lougheed looked back on the 1981 Alberta Special Committee on the Constitution which travelled throughout Canada as an example of times when Alberta Committees can be constituted to look at "matters of national concern". He said consideration is being given to forming a Special Committee on Reform of the Senate so Members of the House would have an opportunity to make a contribution to this important national issue. Premier Lougheed also advocated the expanded use of Private Members' Public Bills, and acknowledged that there were occasions when the whips should be removed and issues decided on free votes.

The Evolving Legislature

Almost without exception the Premiers agreed that their Legislatures have undergone extensive change, particularly during the past decade. They commented

on the results of this evolution which include improved remuneration for Members, better allowances and services, and a recognition that the administration of the Legislature, as representative of all elected Members, must be performed impartially and professionally.

Boards, Commissions or Committees of Internal Economy have been established to oversee the administrative management of all but one provincial House, and include both Government and Opposition Members in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Québec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Increasingly, the authority for determining Legislative Assembly funding has been delegated to these bodies, which in all cases are chaired by the Speaker.

The fact that legislation has been enacted in more and more Legislatures establishing their own administrative operations shows that they do in fact have the human and physical resources to manage their affairs on a professional basis, independent of Government financial administration.

Premier Lee thought the move away from Government control of Legislature operations is becoming more apparent in his Province. He cited the example of the Estimates of the Provincial Auditor which are now approved by the Committee on Internal Econoy, rather than Cabinet. The Premier said the Committee has made all budgetary decisions for the Legislature in 1983, and has arranged for the consolidation of Members offices, caucus space and legislative Committee rooms in the newly-renovated Legislative Annex Building. The Government recognizes the legitimacy of the Committee and accepts the appropriateness of a non-government body administering the affairs of the Legislature. Mr. Lee feels that, as time goes on, there will be an increasing distinction between the role of the Legislature and the Government in P.E.I.

Premier Hatfield commented: "I guess I'm old fashioned. I see an ordered society". He felt that it would be self-defeating for the Legislature to increase services for its Members if the result was an erosion of the traditional closeness that has always existed between New Brunswick Members and constituents. For that reason he resisted the establishment of provincially funded constituency offices because a hired employee and not the Member would be dealing with constituency concerns.

Mr. Hatfield said he does not view the New Brunswick Legislature as a "full-time institution". He does, however, support increased salaries and benefits for Members because "many Members would suffer financially if defeated after one term, and they must be paid adequately while serving". The Premier thinks if the position of Member is recognized as a full-time occupation, this might alter the motivation of people standing for elective office from "merely representing the interests of the constituents" to less constructive concerns such as seeking a secure job.

The independence of the Legislature per se did not appear to be a primary concern of Mr. Hatfield: "It's simply a case of governing one's own affairs responsibly, and the Legislature like any other institution must be accountable for its actions."

In Premier Lévesque's view, "the National Assembly is moving rapidly in the direction of a separation between the Legislature and the Executive". He pointed out that the Québec House recently established the Office of the National Assembly which is comprised of both Government and Opposition Members and has been given autonomy over legislative budgets. According to M. Lévesque, "it has become very difficult for the Government to restrict the resources of Parliament".

Premier Davis has done much in recent years to modernize the administration of the Ontario Legislature and to ensure the provision of a comprehensive program of services to all Members. His sense of fair play has always been evident. As an example, Ontario was the first Province to give Opposition Members the opportunity to sit on the Board of Internal Economy of the Legislature. It was also the first provincial jurisdiction to provide the Party Caucuses with substantial research budgets. However, Mr. Davis said, "In the British Parliamentary system, the Government is there to govern. The Opposition's role is to provide constructive criticism, and these two functions must be kept separate. That is not to say that changes shouldn't take place, but there has to be a clear understanding of the ground rules".

In Premier Peckford's view, "The Legislature will become more and more significant as constituents become closer to their elected representatives". He referred proudly to the work of the Newfoundland Public Accounts Committee which has a broad investigative mandate, and which the Premier feels is probably the strongest Committee of its type in the country. Mr. Peckford was also receptive to the idea of appointing Opposition Members to the Internal Economy Commission, as a means of making the financial management of the House more independent of government control. Premier Pawley thought that Bill 30, *The Legislative Management Commission Act* then before the House, would create "an independent House operation in Manitoba". He said he strongly supported the Bill, and was surprised when it was temporarily withdrawn due to a concern by the Opposition that it would

take power away from the Executive. (The Bill subsequently became law on August 15, 1983).

Pondering the evolution of the Legislature in B.C., Premier Bennett felt there had been a "disproportionate increase in expenditures by the government in recent years, *vis-a-vis* the Legislature, and this would require some catching up". He pointed out however that, in view of economic restraints in the Province, it was unclear how or when this question could be addressed. With respect to Members' remuneration, he said that belt-tightening had taken place over the past few years: a 10% pay cut in fiscal 1982; a pay freeze in fiscal 1983; and "we don't know yet about 1984".

Premier Lougheed said he had witnessed "a steady improvement in the management of the Legislature" since 1971. In his view this was due principally to the dedication and efforts of the Speaker. Mr. Lougheed pointed out that the independence of the Speaker is all the more important in a province where the Government holds such an overhwleming majority of seats in the House. The Premier said he saw a steady increase in the work of a Private Member because of the need to be well informed on a broad range of issues. In Mr. Lougheed's mind Alberta is moving in the direction of full-time backbench Members. However, he thought there could be difficulty in attracting good candidates, unless remuneration paid to elected representatives could compete with the private sector.

Premier Devine was an enthusiastic supporter of the "professional administrative structure" which was created in the Saskatchewan Legislature in 1981. He feels the Board of Internal Economy which includes Opposition representation is an effective manager and referred with pride to the new video Hansard system which provides gavel-to-gavel coverage of the proceedings of the Saskatchewan House, transmitted throughout the Province on Cable T.V. The system was established under the direction of the Speaker and operates with only three employees. The success of the system, instituted during 1983, is being carefully monitored by other jurisdictions including the United States Senate. Premier Devine said that backbenchers in Saskatchewan are still not considered to be full-time and most maintain other careers.

Premier Buchanan thought the recommendations of the Nova Scotia Commission on Remuneration for Elected Provincial Officials in 1982 have made a major contribution to improving the lot of Members, and has created an awareness in the public's mind of the importance and relevance of the Legislature. According to Mr. Buchanan, in order to attract top-quality people to stand for office, elected politicians must be paid proper remuneration and receive adequate services: "There are some people who think the Legislature should be a place for rich people, but I don't see it that way. For the public to be properly served, elected Members must represent a broad cross-section of provincial life."

Premier to Premier, Legislature to Legislature

There is a "legislative community" in Canada made up of elected Members at the federal and provincial level. These Members have a common bond in that, regardless of party or jurisdiction, there are times when they are called upon to represent the interests of Canadian people as a whole. Some Premiers felt that this aspect of a Member's role should receive more attention, and that there should be more dialogue and consultation among all Members for the good of the country.

Canada's ten provinces are a vast expanse of land stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with the population base concentrated within a hundred miles of the U.S. border – a nation tied together by fragile and tenuous strands and threads. Canada is a country that is still in the formative stages of settling and sorting itself out on a wide range of social, economic, political and language issues. The Premiers gave thought to these deeper questions: who will become the builders, the leaders?; who will do the thinking the planning for the future of Canada?

Beyond the battle and fury of partisan politics one asks: what is really important? Is it one-upmanship, and political gamesmanship, or the building of what is still a comparatively new country, with youthful traditions and evolving institutions?

Premier Hatfield, the 'dean' of Canadian Premiers, standing in front of a marble plaque commemorating General Charles G.D. Roberts' poem "Ode to Canada" said, "It seems to me that it is now time for all of us to put aside petty differences and work for the good of the country. It's terrible to think there's so much talk that is irrelevant to the issues which have to be resolved in Canada."

In Victoria Premier Bennett voiced the same concern with setting aside parochial considerations and getting to the nub of the country's problems: "In B.C. and Canada in general in the 1960s and '70s we all had enormous expectations. It was really fictitious economic growth that we were basing our hopes on. In the 1980s we've been brought up short, and that's what's going on now. The growth potential for the next two decades may be less and we will all have to adjust. It's not a case of people being spoiled by government –

none of us could have known what lay ahead. Managing Government is like managing your own household. If you don't make tough decisions today, things could be worse tomorrow. It's a case of making choices while you still have the chance."

The interaction of the Premiers and the interrelationships among Legislatures and Governments across the country was a matter of concern to all Premiers.

In Mr. Hatfield's opinion, "the Premiers should be thinking about a whole host of issues relevant to the country. We have to get time together to think. At the moment it seems we no sooner get finished with one crisis than another one demands our attention". Part of the solution, he thought, lies in the ability of Premiers to establish personal relationships with each other: "You have to have those friendships, that's what it's all about". He suggested "there are certain times when we should be able to pick up the telephone and reach decisions on a much more collegial basis. We used to do that more than we do now".

The Premiers' Conferences are one forum for dialogue and decision on national issues, and several Premiers expressed views on the effectiveness of these meetings.

The difficulty with the Premiers' Conferences, Mr. Hatfield continued, is that "they're used pretty much as public platforms for getting media attention back home", and usually deal with issues so large they are impossible to solve. He said that by having to focus attention on major issues, a Premier is often forced to take a public stand that conflicts with another province. This makes it much more difficult for these same two Premiers to turn around and try to solve smaller, more negotiable issues. The Premier thought it would be a good idea to review the general approach to, and the content of the Premiers' meetings.

Premier Bennett was strong in his view that, "I don't want to see the institutionalization of First Ministers' Conferences. There's too much of that in Canada already". He thinks the Premiers' Conferences have become "arenas for public posturing, not solutions". The Premier said he has concluded "when there's urgency, things are accomplished at the Premiers' meetings, but otherwise time tends to get frittered away and nothing happens. What is needed is that sense of urgency for what must be done in Canada".

Premier Davis was quite clear that, "the Premiers' Conferences are the best forum to try to resolve national issues. Frankly I would like to see more meetings. I find I can be very direct in that setting. I can get right to the point".

As a businessman, Premier Lee said he still gets frustrated by the bureaucracy and slow decision-making process in the public sector: "If private businesses operated the way government does at times, there wouldn't be many businesses". He sees the Premiers' Conferences suffering from this problem. Whereas he acknowledged the need for extensive analysis and sufficient time to consider major agenda items, he felt that progress was most often made on non-agenda issues which were examined and discussed informally. He would like to see the Premiers meet occasionally at times other than the formal Conferences and thought these additional meetings should be restricted to the Premiers themselves without staff, and with agenda items that offer some hope of resolution.

Premier Lougheed said, "I am a strong believer that the First Ministers' Conferences need to be institutionalized, but that we as Premiers need more unstructured time together, more time to talk, to brain-trust". At the same time, he said he thought the public would be "surprised at the frequency of informal telephone communication that takes place between various Premiers on an ongoing basis".

Mr. Lougheed would like to see a First Ministers' Conference take place with the Prime Minister each year. He also saw an advantage in holding Premiers' Conferences in smaller, lower profile communities such as Banff or Prince Edward Island where progress could be made on 'nuts and bolts issues' without the conference becoming a media event. Mr. Lougheed saw the recent Constitutional discussions as having had a major effect on the future style of Premiers' meetings. In his opinion, the emphasis will be on smaller delegations attending Premiers' Conferences, with less staff and more personal involvement on the part of the Premier and his Ministers.

Premier Peckford said he thought the Premiers' Conferences had made "good headway" in recent years, and expressed the view shared by some of the other Premiers that: "we need more informal time together to focus our attention on smaller problems which can be resolved more easily if we really put our minds to them". In general the Premier felt "the dialogue has improved at recent Premiers' Conferences and they have become positive and forward-looking in addressing some of Canada's major problems".

In Mr. Pawley's view there is still too much emphasis at Premiers' Conferences on "federal bashing and jurisdictional problems". As the only N.D.P. Premier in Canada, he did not feel as isolated as he expected to at Premiers' Conferences. "Issues tend to divide on regional and subject lines rather than ideology". How-

ever, in terms of actual progress, the Premier said he has had more success in cutting through the bureaucracy in Ottawa than he has with many of his provincial counterparts.

Premier Devine thought part of the problem with the Premiers' Conferences was the extreme pressure imposed by the media on the Premiers to make definitive statements about accomplishments. He was also concerned that although the Premiers and Ministers often reach fundamental agreement on particular issues, when they turn matters over to the civil servants to work out details these agreements can break down. "Unfortunately", said Mr. Devine, "bureaucrats often seem to take the position that things can't be done, rather than figuring out a way of doing them". Mr. Devine placed a great deal of importance on the personal relationships between individual Premiers: "this has a tremendous effect on whether decisions get made", he said.

Some of the Premiers commented on their contacts with individual U.S. Governors and had thoughts about the benefits to be gained from interrelationships between Governors and Premiers.

Premier Hatfield felt Canadian Premiers could benefit by observing the strong personal ties which are formed between Members of the National Governors' Association in the United States: "I know most of the Eastern Governors personally from attending their meetings and I have found these informal links enormously important. They provide a relaxed opportunity for dialogue on common problems, and this is very helpful."

Premier Lougheed was a strong supporter of the Western Premiers' Group, feeling that there are times when great gains have been made by the four Western Premiers' adopting a common approach to problems and negotiating them collectively.

Premier Lougheed also supported the idea of dialogue between Premiers and Governors, but saw them as less effective than inter-Canadian forums, "probably because Governors tend to have less influence in their jurisdictions than Premiers".

Premier Devine said he plans to participate in the next Regional U.S. Governors' Association meeting. A good rapport has developed between Saskatchewan and North Dakota, which has resulted in strengthened economic ties. Mr. Devine said he had recently spoken to a joint session of the North Dakota Senate and Legislature, and had invited the Governor to address the Saskatchewan House. The Premier raised this as an example of a new approach the Canadian Premiers might consider "to promote a greater understanding between provincial Legislatures. We as Premiers should be able to go to other provinces and explain our concerns directly to the elected Members in those provinces. Supposing, for instance, that I could go to Ontario and speak in its Legislature and Premier Davis could come here. If this could happen every few years, I think a great deal could be accomplished". In this way Mr. Devine said, a great deal of "mutual respect and understanding" could develop between elected Members in the various provinces. Mr. Devine said it was his personal experience, when he has been able to put his case directly to politicians, that he has been much more successful in making them understand than when his views are filtered down through the media. Although some Premiers were less enthusiastic than others, Premier Devine's idea appealed to many of them.

Premier Lougheed responded: "It could work. It could be good for Canada and is an example of the new type of thinking we as Premiers should be looking at". Mr. Lougheed pointed out that political reality would probably require that, in order for Premiers to address another jurisdiction's Legislature this would have to be done as part of an exchange program.

Premier Davis said, "It's an interesting idea to talk about Premiers speaking in each others' Legislatures, although I'm not sure what it would accomplish. For instance I could go and speak in the British Columbia Legislature; it would get media attention for 24 hours or so, but then would it be forgotten?" He was joined by Premier Bennett: "I'm skeptical. It would be good p.r. and get some headlines, but it sounds too much like American politics to really work in our parliamentary system".

Looking at inter-parliamentary exchange on a different level, Premier Buchanan said he felt there had been some constructive results from the "twinning" of Halifax with the port city of Hakodate in the province of Hokkaido, Japan: "Things like this provide an opportunity for Nova Scotia to become known in other parts of the world". Mr. Buchanan also pointed to the benefits of the good liaison which exists between the Maritime Premiers and the Northeast Governors. He feels that the combined formal and informal approach taken by the Maritime Premiers' group, which meets regularly to discuss mutual concerns, has achieved good results, and should be used as a model for Premiers' Conferences. Responding to Premier Devine's suggestion he said: "I've never thought of it before, but it could be a good idea. I don't know that there would be any particular political mileage to be gained by Premiers speaking to each others' Legislatures, but it certainly would be good public relations."

Premier Peckford felt "we definitely need something

that will bring Canadian Legislatures closer together. The fundamental job of running a province is more than being busy putting out fires; it's attempting to find new ways of providing leadership, and legislators can gain valuable insight by becoming aware of approaches and developments in other jurisdictions."

Mr. Peckford said he strongly supported the exchange of information. He cited the example of an important report on acid rain which emanated from a series of meetings between the Maritime Premiers and the Eastern Governors. Premier Lee felt that a forum similar to the U.S. National Conference of State Legislatures was needed in Canada, which could bring together all elected representative at the provincial level. He was also a strong supporter of the Eastern Governors' and Eastern Premiers' group. He pointed out that he had been meeting with the Governor of Vermont on and off for the past two years to produce a report on the agricultural sector. "As a smaller province" said the Premier, "we will take advantage of any forum which may help to improve our economy. We need all the help we can get."

Premier Lévesque said that recent Quebec Speakers had committed a great deal of effort to dialogue and exchange of information between Québec Members and their counterparts in other provinces, the U.S., the Commonwealth and other francophone communities. He pointed out that the Government looks favourably on the development of closer ties among parliamentarians.

Premier Pawley welcomed any vehicle which could bring the Premiers closer together. One of his priorities as Premier is to make the country aware of Manitoba: "Manitoba used to be a very significant Province in Confederation. I want to emphasize the potential of this Province for Canada and the world to see."

The Future of Political Parties

According to a recent national poll, individual Canadians tend to find their personal views increasingly less reflected in any of the traditional political parties. Assuming that party politics is an integral part of the Canadian political system what did the Premiers think could be done to improve its image?

Premier Hatfield expressed concern that people have difficulty in knowing what political parties really stand for. "The public clearly want principles from all parties that they can depend on. The 'in-fighting' that takes place within parties is destructive and has nothing to do with the real problems of a province or the nation. Unfortunately, the name of the game has increasingly become to win at all costs".

Most Premiers agreed that the image of parties in general had declined, but they did not see that as being the case in their own jurisdiction.

Premier Peckford thought the image of political parties in Newfoundland was strong. He felt that by touring the Province and establishing Cabinet task forces on specific issues, his Government has done a good job in allowing the concerns of the grass roots to flow into the legislation process.

Premier Pawley said Manitoba is a "very partisan Province with a high-level awareness of issues and politics by the man on the street". He thinks the public is disappointed in political parties generally, but not specifically with Manitoba's. He said young people are much more politically active in Manitoba than in most other provinces, but the key to success as far as Manitoba's parties are concerned is the ability "to keep young people from leaving the Province". The Premier sees one of his major challenges as giving young people the sense that they can make a major contribution to the future of their Province.

According to Premier Lévesque, "the Québec population seems to identify quite well with the present political parties. The high percentage of voters polled during the last election is an indication of the voters' interest." However, he went on to say, "the pluralism which characterizes our society must also be found in Parliament if it is to maintain its credibility". M. Lévesque also pointed out that "it is difficult to speak of traditional parties when one of our political formations is only 15 years old."

Party politics, according to Premier Lee is "strong and active" in Prince Edward Island. He feels the weakness in the system in some parts of the country is partially due to the fact that the party hierachy "have not allowed the grass roots to play a large enough role". He thinks party members should be allowed to speak their minds, even at the risk of being viewed as "airing dirty laundry". The Premier voiced a strong belief in the importance of consultation with the grass roots, and said he would not impose his own personal view on the Party.

Towards the Year 2000

The Premiers pointed out that during the last twenty years enormous change has taken place in the operation of both Governments and Legislatures. Governments have developed sophisticated systems and an elaborate infrastructure to accommodate the public's

demand for increased service. Legislatures have modernized facilities, expanded servies for Members, and strengthened their independence. How did the Premiers view the next twenty years?

For Premier Lee the aim was to get closer to the people, "not for political gain, but because politicians have come to realize that there is a wealth of knowledge to be tapped which will produce better government." He acknowledged that "the Government does not have all the answers regardless of their resources". He said one of P.E.I.'s Cabinet Ministers is at present heading a task force canvassing public opinion on the various complex issues facing Prince Edward Island.

Premier Lougheed thought Government attention for at least the next few years would have to focus on controlling expenditures: "Canadian Governments simply cannot allow these big deficits to continue". He pointed with pride to his success in "bringing Alberta into the mainstream of Canadian life. People are now aware of Alberta's views on every important Canadian issue", and Mr. Lougheed was confident this would continue.

Premier Lougheed voiced a potential problem that exists in any parliamentary system which places legislative and executive functions in the hands of the same people. He feels it is important that the Legislature continue to restrict sittings to a maximum of four months a year. Otherwise, he said, "the legislative functions of Cabinet Ministers begin to outweigh their Executive responsibilities, and the bureaucracy begins to take over".

Premier Peckford thought the future would see an "increasingly active Legislature". One example would be the expansion of the Standing Committee system to permit the discussion of Government Bills after second reading. He feels the current Newfoundland House has "the highest quality backbench Members ever. They are aware and informed, and this is reflected in the level of Debate in the House". The Premier supported the idea of some form of assistance for Members in their constituencies, as long as the expenses involved could be justified.

Premier Hatfield saw the main challenge in the future as being "how to maintain the tried and tested ways of our parliamentary tradition, while at the same time finding new and imaginative approaches to modern problems". As a strong believer in tradition, he worried about the erosion of parliamentary principles and expressed concern with actions taken by various countries which blurred the distinctions among the Government, the courts and the Legislature. In Mr. Hatfield's opinion, parliamentary traditions are being "exploded all over the world".

For Premier Lévesque, employment remains the major preoccupation of the Government and "we shall not be completely satisfied until we have arrived at a reasonable level of full employment."

Premier Bennett saw Government and the job of Premier as having "changed a great deal from the days of my father or Premier Frost in Ontario". Although Governments have become enormously complicated and sophisticated operations, the Premier feels that "market place realities" in Canada must be applied to government. "Why should government be any different than any other market place?", he asked. "In tough times people have to make tough decisions and, driven by necessity, we must have the will to make changes. It would be irresponsible not to".

Premier Devine said: "We are a resource-strong nation and can be first class and world class in many areas. That's what excites me." Mr. Devine pointed out, "We in Saskatchewan have things that Canada needs and the world wants, and we don't want to miss our chance. That's what this Government is dedicated to. The only thing that can stop it is if we try to create artificial barriers between each other and get caught up in problems of our own making."

The Premiers: A Perspective

It is difficult for those who do not occupy the position to comprehend the enormous pressures and demands placed on Canada's Premiers. Their range of responsibilities encompasses almost every aspect of life; from administering the public purse, which in some cases exceeds 20 billion dollars annually; to providing widespread government services; to being arbiter of social, economic, environmental and energy conflicts; to participating in the legislative business of the House; to being personally involved in the daily lives and affairs of the thousands of constituents who elected them to public office.

The most senior Chief Executive Officers of billion dollar business corporations would think it outrageous if their shareholders required them to shoulder the level and diversity of responsibilities demanded of the Premiers.

The public takes for granted that their chief elected representatives have the competence to do whatever is necessary to run the province. At the same time, the Premier must be seen as a "man of the people", a sort of rich Uncle with time on his hands to deal with the personal concerns of his "family".

The stresses and strains of competing demands are enormous. There is the sacrifice of family life, business success, friendships and personal freedom. There is also the emotional cost of running for election to the Legislature, seeking the leadership of the Party and navigating the treacherous obstacle course necessary to become Premier. At the same time, each Premier must also bear in mind that he has only a relatively short time to put his stamp on the province before someone else takes his turn.

One of the newest Premiers – Premier Grant Devine of Saskatchewan - felt that Canadians generally and Premiers in particular have a responsibility to set goals and achieve them: "Each of us comes into this world with certain unique talents. Canadians need that sense of purpose, of knowing that we have a special contribution to make, and that if we don't do it nobody else will. We must be bold enough to take risks."

The longest serving Premier, Richard Hatfield, spoke philosophically: "When all is said and done, we have to think in human terms. There has to be a flesh and blood element to what each of us does; that's what people really want to see". The fundamental question in Mr. Hatfield's mind was not "what can we do", but "what should we do".

Premier Lévesque also had some views on the role of an elected politician: "A Member is not there for himself, but to serve. A person in politics is dedicated to the service of his fellow citizens. He must accomplish his task in an honest and detached manner". In his view, "constant work and a certain passion are essential to overcome the problems of political life."

The democratic process has placed the mantle of provincial power on the Premiers. They are surprisingly ordinary individuals placed in extraordinary positions, and yet they can often be seen going about their everyday lives, particularly in the smaller provinces. In Fredericton shoppers were heard to say, "I ran into the Premier at the market this morning, and as usual,

he was standing in line like everyone else."

In P.E.I., Premier Lee down played the special status of the Premier. He said, regardless of the fact that he held the highest elective office in the Province, he was accessible to his constituents usually on a same-day basis.

To an outsider, it appeared that each Premier had his own personal priorities, which were often unrelated to current news headlines. Among the private agendas: "to solve the high cost of energy and transportation in the Province"; "bring about the sale of hydro energy after the recession ends"; "take time to address the concerns of the natives and the unemployed"; "reform the procedural rules of the House". There was a genuine concern for the Legislature as an institution, the welfare of individual Members, and a recognized need to involve all Members, regardless of party affiliation, as constructively as possible in the legislative process.

One key concern expressed by several Premiers was the degree to which the Canadian public is dependent on the media for its view of politicians and parliamentary operations. The focus on doom and gloom places a strain on the nation, and results in general feelings of negativism by the public. When it comes right down to it, both political leaders and the media have a responsibility not only to preserve the political system but to replace the atmosphere of problems with one of solutions.

In a country which emphasizes leadership, Premiers as leaders in their provinces, are asked to play a very significant role. Regardless of individual leadership styles, all 10 Premiers are having to address such issues as "do the times require a new level of 'boldness' on the part of leaders?" "What can Premiers do to emphasize positive leadership as opposed, to reactive politics?"

Part of the answer, some Premiers think, lies in a lean and dynamic administration. Premier Devine said "Governments are often no longer able to act swiftly and freshly because of the overburden of bureaucracy." As one who is comparatively new to government, he spoke about the capacity governments have to "confine as well as to facilitate" and very often it is the confining element that wins out.

Premier Bennett expressed the need for bold leadership: "I didn't run to get a job and then to play it safe in order to hold it. Consequently, I've never shied away from tough decisions. In fact, I wouldn't have run if I'd thought all you have to do is 'smile your way through'."

Premier Davis talked about his determination to preserve such "old fashioned moral virtues" as integrity and honesty. Regardless of the currents of change in society, he felt it was essential that these standards not only be kept in the mainstream of public life, but be actively promoted.

Certain common themes did emerge from the meetings with the Premiers and these are listed, not in any special order but rather as a mosaic of thought by 10 of the most important participants in Canadian parliamentary life:

- a desire to enhance the image of the Legislature as an institution essential to Canadian life.
- an acceptance of the need for an expanded role for the backbencher.
- a readiness to assign a broader range of responsibilities to Committees, and to encourage public participation where possible.
- a willingness to experiment with 'free votes'.
- a willingness to include opposition parties on Committees or Boards responsible for internal management of the Legislature and provision of services to Members.
- an awareness that the Legislature will become more important and relevant if mechanisms are instituted which allow all Members more direct contact with constituents on issues which are vital to the life of the province.
- a desire to have Legislatures interact more closely with each other to reach common national goals.
- a determination to have a lean and vibrant administration and to provide services to the public in the best and most efficient manner.
- an opportunity for more informal "brainstorming" by Premiers on various inter-provincial and national issues.
- an interest in the possibility of a program which would allow Premiers to speak directly to elected Members in Legislatures across the country.
- a desire to uphold tried and tested traditions and institutions, while at the same time keeping an open mind on new ideas and approaches.
- a desire to leave a permanent imprint on the life of the Province as a result of having held office.

It was fitting that the meeting with Premier Hatfield, the 'dean' of Canadian Premiers, should come first in the series, and that his final words should reflect the depth of concern felt at times by all Premiers: "There's one last thing I want to say–it's about the 'magnitude of democracy'. What the general public can never know is the level of complexity associated with running a government. Not only does the Premier deal with complicated issues touching on all aspects of the lives of

the citizens of his province, but he also must deal with the realities of power. A lot of time must be spent dealing with issues from the perspective of "I will give you this, if you will give me that". Individuals have ambitions. They may want to be judges, Cabinet Ministers, Lieutenant-Governors. or even Governor-General, and, although desires such as these are perhaps understandable, Premier Hatfield cited this as an example of the type of demand that compounds the complexities of administering modern government and obscures the true task of Canada's Premiers – that of finding new ways to come to grips with the real and pressing problems confronting Legislatures, Governments and the Nation.

ELECTION RESULTS

ELECTION RESULTS

Each year, *Canadian Legislatures* looks at the results of general elections held during the one-year period beginning at September 1st of the previous year. Elections taking place after September 1st in the year of publication are included in the following year's edition.

This year's *Study* looks at the results of general elections held in New Brunswick, P.E.I., Alberta and British Columbia. The election held in the Northwest Territories in November of 1983 will be included in next year's edition.

The following analysis looks at the composition of the Houses in each of the 4 jurisdictions at the time of the most recent election, and compares them with the corresponding Houses at the time of the preceeding general election.

Average Age of Members

The average age of elected Members at the time of election varied within a close range, from 46.88 years in P.E.I. to 50.94 years in B.C. Comparing the corresponding Houses at the time of the previous election, B.C. again had the highest average age (47.85 years) and New Brunswick the lowest (44.98 years).

Table 1: AVERAGE AGE OF MEMBERS

Jurisdiction	*Present House*	*Previous House*	*Change*
BC	50.94	47.85	+3.09 years
ALTA	48.23	46.88	+1.35 years
NB	47.15	44.98	+2.17 years
PEI	46.88	46.43	+0.45 years

The average age increased in all 4 jurisdictions, which is perhaps predictable given the relatively small proportion of Members elected for the first time in the present Houses.

Average Years of Service

The average number of years of service at the time of election increased in all four provinces. The increase varied from a low of .29 years in P.E.I. to 1.72 years in New Brunswick. B.C. Members had the highest average number of years of service in both the present and the previous Houses.

Table 2: AVERAGE YEARS OF SERVICE

Jurisdiction	*Present House*	*Previous House*	*Change*
BC	8.10	6.47	+1.63
NB	6.87	5.15	+1.72
ALTA	5.89	4.62	+1.27
PEI	5.00	4.71	+0.29

Professional Backgrounds

Members' professional backgrounds have been divided into 5 categories; business, farming, law, education and 'other'.

Looking at Members in all 4 provinces together, the largest proportion come from business backgrounds (31.85%). This is followed by 'other' (21.68%); education (18.58%); farming (12.38%) and law (11.50%). Comparing the same 4 provinces at the time of the

Table 3: PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUNDS

a. business; b. farming; c. law; d. education e. other; f. information unavailable

		Present House		*Previous House*		*% Change*
PEI		#	%	#	%	
	a.	9	(28.12)	8	(25.00)	+3.12
	b.	10	(31.25)	9	(28.12)	+3.13
	c.	3	(9.37)	2	(6.25)	+3.12
	d.	6	(18.75)	6	(18.75)	0
	e.	2	(6.25)	5	(15.62)	−9.27
	f.	2	(6.25)	2	(6.25)	0
NB						
	a.	21	(36.20)	23	(39.65)	−3.45
	b.	2	(3.44)	2	(3.44)	0
	c.	6	(10.34)	7	(12.06)	−1.72
	d.	16	(27.58)	15	(25.86)	+1.72
	e.	12	(20.68)	9	(15.51)	+5.17
	f.	1	(0.35)	2	(3.44)	−3.09
ALTA						
	a.	29	(36.70)	26	(32.91)	+3.79
	b.	16	(20.25)	17	(21.51)	−1.26
	c.	9	(11.39)	11	(13.92)	−2.53
	d.	13	(16.45)	10	(12.65)	+3.80
	e.	10	(12.65)	13	(16.45)	−3.80
	f.	2	(2.53)	2	(2.53)	0
BC						
	a.	13	(22.80)	13	(22.80)	0
	b.	0	(0)	1	(1.75)	−1.75
	c.	8	(14.03)	10	(17.54)	−3.51
	d.	7	(12.28)	7	(12.28)	0
	e.	25	(43.85)	21	(36.84)	+7.01
	f.	4	(7.01)	5	(8.77)	−1.76

previous election, the figures are strikingly similar: business (30.97%); 'other' (21.23%); education (16.81%); law (13.27%) and farming (12.83%). The present Houses have a slightly higher proportion of farmers relative to lawyers, but no category varied more than 1.77%.

There is, however, a much greater variation in professional backgrounds among the 4 provinces. Business has been the largest category in New Brunswick and Alberta during both Houses. Farming is the most prevalent occupation in P.E.I., while the largest proportion of B.C. Members come from professional backgrounds that don't fall into one of the listed categories.

There has been a decrease in the proportion of lawyers in all provinces except P.E.I., and a steady or growing number of Members with educational backgrounds in all 4 provinces. Only New Brunswick experienced a decline in the proportion of Members from business backgrounds.

Perhaps one of the most interesting facts that emerges from the data on professional backgrounds is the high degree of consistency in each jurisdiction from one election to the next. No individual category in any province fluctuated by more than 9%, and within the four listed categories the largest change was 3.8%.

Educational Background

The educational backgrounds of Members have been divided into 3 categories: those with secondary school education only; those with an undergraduate university or college degree; and those with post-graduate education of some kind.

If Members in the 4 provinces are considered together, and the total number of Members in each category is compared at the time of each of the last two general elections, there has been very little change. Most Members in the present Houses fall into the post-secondary category (35.84%), followed by secondary school (33.18%) and post-graduate (26.99%). In the previous Houses the ranking remains essentially the same; post-secondary (35.39%); secondary (35.39%); post-graduate (27.43%). The largest change has been the decrease in the number of Members with secondary education only, but the decline has been very small (2.21%).

Comparing the 4 provinces, B.C. has the largest proportion of Members with secondary education only (45.61%), followed by P.E.I. (40.62%), New Brunswick (32.75%) and Alberta (21.51%). The provinces were in the same order at the time of the previous elections. New Brunswick has the greatest percentage of Members with post-secondary education (43.10%) but ranks 4th in the category of post-graduate schooling (20.68%). Alberta has the largest proportion of post-graduate Members (36.70%), 14% higher than second-place B.C. Alberta also follows New Brunswick in the post-secondary category with 39.24%. Although the number of Members in each category changed between elections, the ranking of the 4 provinces was consistent in all categories.

Within individual provinces there was more fluctuation between categories when the last two Houses are compared. Alberta experienced a 7.60% decrease in the number of Members with secondary education, and a corresponding 6.33% increase in Members with post-secondary training. In New Brunswick there are

Table 4: EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUNDS

a. secondary; b. post secondary; c. post graduate; d. information unavailable

		Present House		*Previous House*		*% Change*
PEI		#	%	#	%	
	a.	13	(40.62)	13	(40.62)	0
	b.	7	(21.87)	9	(28.12)	−6.25
	c.	7	(21.87)	8	(25.00)	−3.13
	d.	5	(15.62)	2	(6.25)	+9.37
NB						
	a.	19	(32.75)	19	(32.75)	0
	b.	25	(43.10)	28	(48.27)	−5.17
	c.	12	(20.68)	9	(15.51)	+5.17
	d.	2	(3.44)	2	(3.44)	0
ALTA						
	a.	17	(21.51)	23	(29.11)	−7.60
	b.	31	(39.24)	26	(32.91)	+6.33
	c.	29	(36.70)	30	(37.97)	−1.27
	d.	2	(2.53)	0	(0)	+2.53
BC						
	a.	26	(45.61)	25	(43.85)	+1.76
	b.	18	(31.57)	17	(29.82)	+1.75
	c.	13	(22.80)	15	(26.31)	−3.51
	d.	0	(0)	0	(0)	0

5.17% more Members with post-graduate education in the present House, and in P.E.I. there was a decline in the number of Members with post-graduate and post-secondary education. B.C. remained the most stable, with no category varying by more than 2 Members.

Previous Political Experience

Of all the categories being analysed, there was the greatest degree of fluctuation in the number of elected Members having previous political experience at the municipal level. In 3 of the 4 provinces, the proportion of Members in this category increased by more than 10% between the last two general elections (P.E.I. – 12.5%; B.C. – 10.53%; Alta. – 10.12%). New Brunswick, on the other hand, experienced a 5.17% decline. However, New Brunswick still has almost 30% of its Members with previous elective experience, less than 4% lower than Alberta, which has the greatest percentage (34.17%). Although P.E.I. experienced the largest increase, it remains the lowest of the 4 provinces in terms of actual numbers (19.75%, compared to 29.31% for New Brunswick; 29.82% for B.C.; and 34.17% for Alberta).

Table 5: PREVIOUS POLITICAL EXPERIENCE AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

	Present House		*Previous House*		*% Change*
	#	%	#	%	
ALTA	27	(34.17)	19	(24.05)	+10.12
BC	17	(29.82)	11	(19.29)	+10.53
NB	17	(29.31)	20	(34.48)	−5.17
PEI	6	(18.75)	2	(6.25)	+12.5

B.C. has the most Members with previous political experience in the House of Commons. In both the last two elections, 3 provincial Members in B.C. previously served at the federal level. P.E.I. is the only other jurisdiction with any Members in this category (1 in each election).

Women Members

There has been no change in the proportion of women Members elected in any of the 4 provinces during the past 2 general elections. No jurisdiction has more than 10% women Members.

Table 6: WOMEN MEMBERS

	Present House		*Previous House*		*% Change*
	#	%	#	%	
BC	6	(10.52)	6	(10.52)	0
ALTA	6	(7.59)	6	(7.59)	0
NB	4	(6.89)	4	(6.89)	0
PEI	2	(6.25)	2	(6.25)	0

THE STATE OF THE LEGISLATURE IN 1983

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Parliamentary systems, in order to reflect the society they exist in, must continually be aware of the need to grow and change. As one institution in the system evolves and expands the scope of its influence, it is imperative that the others be ready and able to respond to this change in a way which maintains the delicate balance among the various institutions in the system.

During the past 30 years, governments have been called on to assume a larger and more diversified role in Canadian society. The result has been a growth in the scope of power exercised by the executive arm of government, and a corresponding increase in the size of the civil service bureaucracy. At the same time, the public has demanded efficiency in government operations and the executive has responded by acquiring expertise in a wide range of disciplines, priorizing program development and streamlining operations as much as possible.

Until the last decade, the legislative side of government had not kept pace with the executive. Resources provided to legislators fell far short of those existing in the civil service, and, consequently, individual Members did not have the means of providing the necessary checks on Government operations.

There was also an erosion of the independence of the Legislature: Assemblies were totally dependent on the Government for operational funds; legislative employees were part of the civil service; the Speaker did not have the necessary authority and stature to effectively perform his role as administrative head of the Assembly; and it was generally accepted that the Legislature could be administered as one small, and relatively insignificant component of a Government department.

This is no longer the case. The last 10 years have seen a tremendous resurgence in interest and commitment to independent and resourceful provincial Legislatures. Imbalances remain, but both Governments and Legislatures have gone a long way towards recognizing the separate but complementary roles each must play.

Each Legislature has its own peculiar needs and priorities, and no two have evolved in the same way. However, each has implemented a program of services for Members which includes such things as secretarial staff, constituency offices, and research assistance in both the caucus and the Legislative Library. Some have gone so far as to introduce office automation systems geared specifically to the unique needs of elected Members.

Most Legislatures have also been given some degree of independence in the administration of the House. Boards or Committees of Internal Economy now exist in all jurisdictions except British Columbia, and the Speakers of all Legislatures except P.E.I. and the Yukon now head an independent administrative apparatus.

The following material attempts to provide a concise outline of the state of legislative operations in the House of Commons and each provincial and territorial Legislature in 1983. The evolution is certainly not complete, and those of us interested in the future of our parliamentary system will follow new developments with enthusiasm. Although the process is often slow and not always predictable, as long as our institutions retain the capacity to respond to demands for change,

we remain confident that the system will continue to rise to each individual challenge.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Renumeration entitlements for Members of Parliament are normally subject to annual adjustments, calculated at 1% less than increases in a combination of the Industrial Composite Index and the Consumer Price Index during the preceeding year. These indexing provisions have been suspended until January of 1985 by virtue of Bill C-124, which included Members' indemnities and salaries in the Government's "6 & 5" program.

On January 1, 1982, the basic indemnity paid to all Members was set at $48,600. This rate stayed in effect until July 1, 1982 when Bill C-124 rolled the increase back to $46,400. When it came time to establish the indemnity level for 1983, these two figures were averaged, and the 6% adjustment was applied to this average figure. Increases will be restricted to 5% on January 1, 1984. Thereafter the regular indexing formula will apply.

Committee allowances remained unchanged during the past year. Members do not receive a per diem for attending Committee meetings, but may claim travel expense costs of $40–$45 per day within Canada, and a minimum of $50 per day when the Committee meets outside the country.

The House of Commons does not have an accommodation allowance for out-of-town Members. Members are expected to absorb accommodation costs within their tax-free expense allowance.

Members may travel to and from their ridings by air, bus, train, boat or car. The allowance establishes 52 travel 'points' per year for travel. Ten of these may be used for travel throughout Canada, and nine may be allocated to the Member's family or staff. Members are permitted to travel first class by air and are issued passes for train travel.

In addition, Members are provided with allowances of between $1,100 and $5,500 for travel within the constituency, depending on the size of the riding.

The House of Commons is one of 4 jurisdictions which provides Members with a severance allowance on leaving office. The allowance is restricted to Members not elegible for a pension, and is equal to ½ of their total annual indemnity at the time of leaving office, excluding tax-free expense allowance. Pensioners are not eligible for this allowance.

Members contribute 11% of their basic indemnity to the pension plan. They may elect to contribute with respect to their additional indemnities and salaries by paying the same percentage figure. Members are eligible for a pension after 6 years of service, regardless of age. However, the pension is not drawn until the Member is at least 60 years old. When an eligible Member reaches age 60, he or she is entitled to all annual indexing adjustments made since the date of retirement. Pension calculations are based on the 6 highest consecutive years of service and are restricted to a maximum of 75% of this figure. Members reach this maximum after 15 years of service.

Members receive the same group insurance coverage as civil servants. This includes ½ the premium costs of medicare in provinces that have premium charges, extended health care, disability, life and accident insurance.

Each Member is provided with a suite of offices on Parliament Hill. Members also receive a staff allowance of $86,600 which is used to hire personnel in both Ottawa and the constituency. A maximum of $67,177 may be used in the Ottawa office and various electronic office equipment may be charged against this figure. There was no increase in this allowance level during the past year.

Each caucus is provided with funding for research assistance. The allowance is based on party standing and the formula remained unchanged during 1983. The current levels are $603,000 for the Government, $542,000 for the Opposition, and $285,000 for the Third Party. Opposition Leaders and House Leaders receive a separate allowance for staff.

In the constituency, Members are allocated funds for staff salaries and operating expenses. The salary component is part of the overall staff allowance of $86,600 provided to all Members. At least $17,423 must be earmarked for the riding, but Members may spend up to the entire amount. The annual office accommodation allowance was increased from $9,200 to $9,750 during the past year, a raise of 6%. In addition, Members receive $1,000 per parliament to help defray the cost of furniture and equipment used in their riding offices.

Federal Members may utilize the services of the Library of Parliament's research staff. 53 researchers provide non-partisan research to all Members and Committees of the House.

The House of Commons kept its budget increase within the 5% range for fiscal 1983–84. Operating expenses now total $147,885,000.

No Major increases were made to the staff complement of the various departments of the House of Commons. There was also no change in the composition or operation of the Board of Internal Economy.

The Board is the entity responsible for financial operation of the House, and is chaired by Madam Speaker and comprised of 4 Ministers.

During 1983 the House of Commons moved into the second phase of the OASIS project. The purpose of the project is to provide an integrated systems network connecting all offices on the Hill. Members' offices were wired by means of coaxil cable and each office is equipped with a video monitor which allows Members to view proceedings of the House and to retrieve information made available on the system. A demonstration facility was established during 1982 and during the past year the system has been tested in various administration offices. Members' offices will begin to be hooked into the system during 1984, and it is the eventual intention to have all Members' offices, the caucuses and the House of Commons departments on the integrated system.

During 1983 the House of Commons continued the First session of the 32nd Parliament. 28 public Bills became law during the year, compared with 37 during 1982.

NEWFOUNDLAND

Restraint has been the primary consideration underlying legislative operations in Newfoundland during 1983. As in so many other public sector institutions, expansion has been restricted and administrative budgets have been pared to reduce expenditures as much as possible.

Members and Ministers received no increase in indemnity or salary levels during 1983. The most recent adjustment came on April 1, 1982 when an Order-in-Council provided a 7.88% raise. The only monetary benefit adjusted during 1983 was the Members' non-accountable travel allowance which increased from between 3% and 4% depending on the distance of a Member's constituency from St. John's.

On July 2, 1982 *The Parliamentary Secretaries Act* became law. It authorizes the Cabinet to appoint up to 4 Parliamentary Assistants at any one time, at a salary to be fixed by Order-in-Council. Until this change only the Premier had a Parliamentary Assistant.

There was no change in pension benefits or insurance coverage for Members during 1983. They continue to contribute 7% of their indemnities (excluding tax-free expense allowance) to the pension plan, and are entitled to an allowance when their age plus years of service equals 60, as long as they have served a minimum of 5 years. The pension is based on the highest 3-year average salary and can reach a maximum of 75% of this figure.

Elected Members are provided with the same insurance coverage as provincial civil servants. This includes optional extended health care, life insurance and accident insurance. No additions or changes were made to this coverage during 1983.

Committee per diem and expense allowances also stayed unchanged at $50 per day, to a maximum of $2,000 with the exception of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts whose Members are now paid a flat fee of $2,000 per year, regardless of how many meetings are held (the Chairman receives $3,000).

The accommodation allowance for Members from outside St. John's remained at $59.40 per sitting day. There was also no change in the entitlement for travel to and from St. John's. Members may make up to 12 round trips by air, bus, boat or car. The car travel allowance increased from 26¢ to 30¢ per mile, effective January 1, 1983.

In the category of services provided to Private Members of the House of Assembly, again there were no major changes during 1983. There is still no formalized constituency office program. Members are permitted householder mass mailings, but the number has been reduced from 4 to 2 per year in order to cut costs.

Caucus funding levels did not increase during 1983. However, there were some changes in salary levels paid to various support personnel. Private Members' secretaries received increases of between 11% and 12%; Ministers' secretaries, between 23% and 37%; and caucus researchers, 10%.

Newfoundland has plans for the construction of a new Legislative Building near the site of the existing Confederation Building. The latest forecast is for a spring 1986 completion date. At that time the Legislature will move from its present location to the new structure, and legislative operations will be housed on the first 2 floors. This will provide Members, caucuses and administrative offices with more space and will make the House more accessible to the public.

Overall spending by the Legislature was limited to $6,252,600 for fiscal 1983–84, an increase of 6.61% over the previous year.

No major additions were made to the staff complement of legislative offices, and the House continues to be managed by the Internal Economy Commission comprised of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and 3 Ministers.

The House of Assembly hopes to install word processing equipment in the Hansard operation, beginning in the spring session of 1984. This would elimi-

nate the need to rely on outside contract help during the sessional period.

The Newfoundland House of Assembly began the 39th Legislature in the spring of 1982. During the 1st session, 68 Acts were passed before the House prorogued on December 2, 1982. One of these was the *Conflict of Interest for Ministers Act*, which became law on July 2, 1982. The *Act* gives the Premier power to establish guidelines respecting standards to be observed by his Ministers in the conduct of both official functions and personal affairs. This statute complements the existing conflict of interest legislation governing Ministers and Private Members, enacted in 1973. The 1973 statute requires all Members to file a statement before assuming his or her seat in the House, outlining any interest in real property, shares in a corporation and any other interests which might conflict with their position as Members. Filings must be made annually after that time.

The 2nd session of the present Legislature began in the spring of 1983. When the House adjourned on May 31st, 24 pieces of legislation had become law. The session was scheduled to resume in November. During 1982, 68 Government Bills were passed.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

The indemnities and expense allowances of Members of the Prince Edward Island Legislature are subject to a one-year freeze, effective April 1, 1983. This temporarily suspended the regular procedure which awards Members an annual increase in their remuneration in accordance with changes in the Industrial Composite Index. Effective January 1, 1983 the indemnity and expense allowance paid to Private Members, and the additional remuneration paid to the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Opposition Leader, increased by 7% in accordance with the regular indexing provision. However, the *Legislative Assembly Act* was amended on June 23, 1983 rolling back all increases to 1982 levels, effective April 1st of this year. The only increase in remuneration received during 1983 was the 7% adjustment between January 1st and April 1st, before the rollback provisions took effect.

The Premier and Cabinet Ministers received no increase in their ministerial salaries during 1983.

The 1983 amendment Act created a new per diem allowance for Members attending Committee meetings during the off-session period. For the first time, Members receive $75 per day plus a $10 daily allowance for meals, and Members may claim the cost of a round trip to Charlottetown by automobile at 21.3¢ per kilometre.

There is no allowance for accommodation at the capital, however, Members are entitled to claim the cost of one round trip per day to and from their constituency on each day the House is sitting. Beginning this year, Members are also entitled to 3 round trips per month during inter-session periods.

Pension benefits remained unchanged during 1983. All Members contribute 6½% of their indemnities, excluding tax-free allowances, and are entitled to draw a pension at age 50 if they have served for a minimum of 8 years. The Legislature contributes 4 times the amount of the Members' levy, and pension benefits are calculated at 75% of the total contributions at the time of leaving office. The maximum pension payable to a Member cannot exceed the average of his or her final 5 years' remuneration.

Members are provided with the same group insurance benefits as provincial civil servants, with the exception of disability benefits. These include an optional extended health care plan, life, dental and accident insurance.

During the past few years, Parks Canada has undertaken an extensive restoration of the Confederation Building in Charlottetown. The Legislative Chamber, galleries and anti-rooms are the only parts not yet finished, and work in these areas will be completed before the beginning of the 1984 session. The George Coles Building, adjacent to the Confederation Building, has also been restored, as a Legislative Annex. During 1983, all Members moved into private offices in this Building. It also houses caucus offices and legislative Committee meeting rooms.

Each caucus was granted funds for one additional secretary during 1983. The Opposition caucus also has a researcher. The researcher is paid $37,650 (an increase of 10% from the 1982 level) and the secretarial salary range is set at $14,550 to $20,830.

Members in P.E.I. are not provided with funds for offices in their constituencies. They are given mail and telephone privileges in Charlottetown when the House is sitting, and during the past year, rural Members were provided with private phone lines within their constituency, paid for by the Assembly.

Caucuses receive funds for operating purposes, based on recommendations of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy. These levels remained unchanged during 1983, at $40,000 for the Opposition and $10,000 for the Government. Overall Estimates for the Legislative Assembly increased by 5.46% during fiscal 1983–84, to a total of $1,081,900. There were no major ad-

ditions to staff complements of any legislative offices.

On June 23, 1983, the *Compensation Review Act* came into force, limiting public sector salaries to a total of 5% over the next 2 years. No more than 40% of any increase may take place in the first year. A Commissioner was appointed under the *Act* to review and approve compensation plans covering all public sector employees, including staff of the Legislature.

Financial operations of the Legislature continue to be managed by the Standing Committee on Internal Economy, a body chaired by the Speaker and including the Opposition Leader and Government House Leader.

During 1983, the P.E.I. House began to transcribe and print Question Period on word processing equipment. Copies are delivered to the House on the day following each sitting. There is still no formal Hansard coverage of House proceedings in P.E.I.

A Select Committee of the House is investigating conflict interest guidelines for elected Members. There are no guidelines governing Ministers or Private Members at the present time.

A new *Election Expenses Act* was passed by the House on June 23rd of this year. This is the first time that election financing has been regulated by statute in P.E.I. Under the *Act*, expenditure by parties on general elections is restricted to $2 × the number of registered voters in the province, and candidates may spend an additional $1.25 × the number of voters in the riding, to a maximum of $12,000 per election. Candidates are reimbursed for expenses at the rate of 32¢ per elector in their constituency, to a maximum of $1,500, as long as they receive at least 15% of the total votes cast in the riding.

Candidates and Parties must report expenditures after each election, and the *Act* provides annual funding to each Party represented in the House, at the rate of 25¢ × the number of votes received by the party in the previous general election. As of December 1, 1983, this statute had not yet been proclaimed by the Lieutenant Governor.

During the 1st session of the 56th Legislature in 1983, 46 Government bills became law. This compares to 36 Acts in the final session of the 55th Legislature.

NOVA SCOTIA

In 1982, the Commission of Inquiry on Remuneration of Elected Provincial Officials was appointed and given the mandate to consider the adequacy of remuneration paid to Members of the Nova Scotia Legislature. This Commission, chaired by Dr. W.A. MacKay, President of Dalhousie University, presented its report to the Cabinet on June 22, 1982.

In response to the Commission's report, the Government introduced amendments to the *Executive Council Act* and the *House of Assembly Act*, which became law during 1982.

With respect to the Members' basic indemnity and tax-free expense allowance, the Commission recommended using the 1981 levels ($15,600 and $7,800) as a base, and increasing these amounts by $2,000 and $1,000 per year, beginning in 1982 through to 1985. The House did not implement this recommendation in 1982. Instead, the 1982 levels were fixed at $16,400 and $8,200, a 5.12% increase over the 1981 figures. When it came to an adjustment for 1983, the *House of Assembly Restraint Year Act*, passed on June 1, 1983 limited remuneration increases to 6%. However, the base figures used for Members included the recommended adjustments for 1982 contained in the Commission report ($17,600 and $8,800), rather than the actual remuneration levels paid during 1982. As a result, Members received a 13.75% actual increase in the basic indemnity and expense allowance in 1983.

A similar process was followed for additional salaries paid to Ministers and the Premier under the *Executive Council Act.* Instead of receiving an additional $27,500 in 1982, as recommended in the Commission report, Ministers with Portfolio received $25,000. However, when the *House of Assembly Restraint Year Act* was implemented in 1983, $27,500 rather than $25,000 was used as the base figure, and when 6% was added, the actual increase in 1983 was 16.67%. The Premier received a 17.59% increase.

The 1982 *House of Assembly Act* contains several other provisions relevant to legislative operations. The Speaker is equated to a Minister with Portfolio for salary purposes, and the Deputy Speaker receives ½ the Speaker's level. The Speaker is also deemed to remain in office after the House dissolves until the date of the next election.

Instead of differentiating between travel when the House is sitting and in recess, the *Act* sets travel entitlements at 52 round trips per year, effective January 1, 1983. In addition, a new allowance of up to $1,600 is available to all Members for travel within their constituency.

Accommodation expenses for out-of-town Members are now determined by the Legislature Internal Economy Board, and were increased from $40 to $50 per day during 1983.

Beginning in 1983, remuneration and services provided to Members will be reviewed on an annual basis,

rather than once every 4 years. A Commission of Inquiry, chaired again by Dr. MacKay, was created in the fall of 1983 and is expected to submit a report to the Speaker before the end of the year. The Speaker, rather than Cabinet, has authority to implement the Commission's recommendations.

During 1983 the Nova Scotia House removed the $75 per diem allowance paid to Committee members for meeting days when the House is in recess. Members are paid $1,500 per year for membership on Committees, plus up to $100 for expenses on each day the Committee meets.

The *Members' Retiring Allowances Act, 1982* makes some alterations to the pension plan for Members. Effective January 1, 1982, Members are required to contribute 8% of their tax-free expense allowance and 8% of any additional indemnities to the plan. The *Act* also eliminates the re-marriage restrictions on the surviving spouse allowance. Members must serve for at least 10 years before becoming eligible for a pension. (The 1982 *Act* reduced the minimum service requirement from 10 to 5 years, but this provision was repealed by an amendment passed in 1983.) Pension levels are based on the highest 5-year average salary, and can reach a maximum of 75% of this figure.

Members continue to receive the same insurance coverage as employees of the Legislature, which includes life, disability and accident insurance, premium free.

Province House in Nova Scotia is a relatively small structure with insufficient space to house all Members. One recommendation of the 1982 Commission of Inquiry was for the Government to establish a Legislative Annex adjacent to Province House, which would be able to accommodate all Members, caucus offices, and House administrative operations. This recommendation was accepted by the Government, and long range plans are underway to convert the old Post Office Building into an Annex. At present, Members are provided with an office in one of several office buildings in the downtown core.

Secretarial services are provided to Members through the caucuses. Each caucus is allocated funds for this purpose by the Legislative Internal Economy Board. Members also receive a postage allowance of $2,100 which must cover the cost of ordinary mail and any householder mailings the Member wishes to send. The telephone allowance of $1,500 in each Member's legislative office was removed during 1983. Members' phone expenses in Halifax are paid by the Legislative Assembly, including long-distance charges.

The 1982 *House of Assembly Act* removed the constituency office funding provisions from the statute and placed them in the hands of the Internal Economy Board. Funding levels during 1983 remained unchanged; each Member receives $250 per month for services in the constituency and $250 per month for office space and secretarial services.

Caucuses are funded according to a formula based on party standings. The Internal Economy Board establishes the appropriate levels for both staff and operations. The per-Member funding formulae of $5,300 per year for staff and $175 per month for operations set in 1982 remained in force during 1983. Funding for the Third and Fourth Parties is allocated by the Board, based on representations made by those Parties. The 1983 levels are $77,900 for the Third Party and $19,800 for the Fourth Party.

The 1983–84 operating budget of the Nova Scotia Legislature increased by 6.3%, to a total of $4,342,500. There were no major increases in staff complement within the various departments of the Assembly.

The *Compensation in Public Sector Act* passed by the Legislature on June 1, 1983 limited salary increases for employees of the Nova Scotia Legislature to 6% for the current year. The *Act* imposes this same limit on all public sector salaries.

Financial operations of the House are the responsibility of the Legislative Internal Economy Board, chaired by the Speaker and comprised of 5 Private Members from the Government Caucus.

The 1st session of the 53rd Legislature began on February 18, 1982 and lasted until June 26th. During the session 93 Bills became law. 67 Acts were passed in the 2nd session, which ended on June 1, 1983.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Members' indemnities in New Brunswick are tied to annual increases in the Industrial Composite Index. Effective January 1, 1983 this indexing formula provided all Members with a 9.75% increase. Recognizing that Governments throughout Canada were asking public sector employees to reduce their salary expectations during the recession period, all Government Members contributed 10% of their salary as a gift to the Province. This amount ($2,706.70) was deducted from each Member's indemnity payment. Opposition Members decided to contribute an equivalent amount to a charity of their choice.

The Premier and Ministers' additional salaries were governed by Bill 105, *The Executive Council Act, 1983*, which became law on August 4, 1983. Under the terms of the Bill, all additional indemnities paid to the Pre-

mier and Cabinet Ministers were frozen at 1982 levels, effective January 1, 1983.

Committee allowances, accommodation expenses and travel entitlements remained unchanged during 1983. Members continue to receive a $200 non-accountable expense allowance for each Committee meeting they attend, plus $70 per day for out-of-town Members to cover costs of accommodation and meals on days the House sits. To travel back and forth between their constituencies and Fredericton, Members are allowed 1 trip per week when the House is in session and up to 25 trips per year during the recess period. Travel may be by air, train, bus or car. Car travel rates are equated to civil service levels and were raised by 1¢ during 1983. Until this year, Members were permitted an allowance of $65 per month for travel within their constituency, however, this allowance was eliminated during 1983.

Pension and insurance provisions for Members remained unchanged during 1983. Members contribute 9% of their indemnities to the pension plan and are eligible for a pension after serving 10 sessions. Ministers contribute 6% of their additional Ministerial salary. Pension calculations are based on the highest 3-year average salary with no limit on the maximum pension level.

Members have the option of participating in any group insurance plan available to the civil service, including extended health care, life and disability insurance. There were no changes in coverage during 1983.

During the past few years, efforts have been made to improve office facilities for Private Members. One priority has been to consolidate offices into one area for each caucus, and to locate as many Members as possible either in the Legislative Building or as near as possible. The Departmental Building, adjacent to the Legislature, has been designated as a Legislative Annex, and various legislative offices have been moving into the Building during the past few years. The Hansard office now operates from there, and by the end of 1984, space will be renovated to accommodate 15 Private Members of the Government Caucus, now housed in various locations throughout Fredericton.

New Brunswick Members remain without any form of constituency office funding. Each Member is provided with a secretary in Fredericton, and caucuses are funded by the Legislative Administration Committee. Until 1983 each caucus was provided with identical funding levels for secretarial and research assistance. As a result of decisions taken during the past year, the Government Caucus now receives 24% more than the Opposition, excluding the staff allowance paid to the Leader of the Opposition. The new caucus funding levels for the current fiscal year represent a 38% increase for the Government Caucus and 11.5% for the Opposition. The Opposition Leader's allowance remained unchanged.

As a result of the October 12, 1982 general election, one Member representing the New Democratic Party now sits in the New Brunswick House. Under the terms of the *Legislative Assembly Act* and the Standing Orders of the House, this Member is not entitled to receive any additional indemnity or funding for secretarial or research assistance. The Legislative Administration Committee recognized the special circumstances relating to this particular Member and approved funding in the amount of $6,000 to help cover his secretarial and related requirements.

The 1983–84 Budget for the New Brunswick Legislature increased by 3.97% over the 1982–83 levels, to a total of $4,423,700. One full time Hansard employee and 3 sessional staff were added during the past year. No major enhancements took place in legislative operations or services for Members, in an effort to adhere to the general focus on restraint in the New Brunswick public sector.

New Brunswick completed its 49th Legislature when the 4th session was prorogued on June 18, 1982. 49 Acts were passed during that year. The 50th Legislature began on April 5th of 1983, and 104 Bills were passed into law before prorogation on August 5th. The 2nd session will begin in 1984.

QUÉBEC

On December 10, 1982, Bill 110, *An Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly*, came into force. It replaced the remuneration and pension provisions contained in the *Executive Power Act* and the *Legislature Act*.

Under the Bill, the basic indemnity paid to all Members was set at $37,202. This represents a 6% increase over the 1982 level. The tax-free expense allowance and all other additional indemnities and salaries received no increase.

Beginning on January 1, 1984, Members will receive an annual increase in their indemnities, expense allowance and Ministerial salaries based on any rise in the Consumer Price Index during the preceding year.

Three office holders were granted additional indemnities for the first time under Bill 110; the Deputy Government House Leader ($8,340), the Deputy Op-

position House Leader ($6,950) and Vice Chairmen of Standing Committees ($1,755).

The Bill also removes the regulation that provides for a deduction of $100 per day from a Member's indemnity if absent for more than 10 days per year for reasons other than illness or official business.

Committee allowances remained unchanged during 1983 at $50 per meeting day when the House is not sitting.

Out-of-town Members received a 15% increase in their accommodation allowance, raising it from $5,900 to $6,800 per year.

Travel entitlements remained essentially unchanged during 1983. Members are allowed 52 round trips per year between their constituencies and Québec City by any mode of transportation, and are provided with an additional allowance for travel through other parts of the Province.

Members resigning, defeated or retiring from office are provided with a severance allowance for the first time under Bill 110. The allowance is available only to Members leaving office after January 1, 1983, and is paid according to the following formula: 2 × monthly salary × years of service. "Monthly service" is defined as the higher of 1/12th of the Member's annual remuneration at the time of leaving office or 1/36th of his or her 3 highest paid years' remuneration. The severance allowance may not be less than 4 times the monthly salary, nor more than 12 times this figure.

Members' pension entitlements were also substantially altered under the Bill. The new plan applies to all Members elected after January 1, 1983. Members elected before that time are governed by the pension scheme contained in the *Legislature Act*, unless they elect to be covered by the new plan. The newly-created Office of the National Assembly is responsible for administration of the pension plan. The following table compares the provisions of the old and new plans:

QUEBEC PENSION LEGISLATION

	Old Act	*New Act*
Operative legislation	Legislature Act	Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the National Assembly
Date established	1958	1983
Body responsible for administration	Commission administrative du regime de retraite	Office of the National Assembly
Contribution level	8% of all indemnities, excluding tax-free expense allowance	10% of all indemnities, excluding tax-free expense allowance, up to amount of personal exemption under Q.P.P. + 8.2% of excess up to level of maximum pensionable earnings under Q.P.P. + 10% of remainder
Minimum age requirement	none	Age + years of service = 65; minimum age 60
Minimum service requirement	5 years service during 2 Legislatures	None
Basis of pension calculation	% of total contribution	Highest 3 year average
Maximum pension level	75% of contribution to maximum of indemnity level paid during last year of service	70% of highest 3 year average; Member may withdraw pension credits in excess of maximum pension level
Years to reach maximum	8	17½
Spousal benefit	Member may contribute extra 2%; spouse may receive 50% of Member's entitlement + 10% per eligible child	Member may elect to have pension replaced by life annuity with continuity in favor of spouse
Post-retirement adjustment mechanism	Indexed to annual rises in Pension Index under Q.P.P.	Indexed to annual rises in Pension Index under Q.P.P. in excess of 3%

Until 1983, Members of the National Assembly were provided with the same group insurance coverage as civil servants, but were required to pay 50% of the premium costs. These included life insurance and accident insurance. An optional extended health care package was available, but Members were required to pay the full premium costs. The Office of the National Assembly was in the process of reviewing insurance provisions for Members as of November 1983. Details of any new plans, including disability coverage for Members, will be included in the 1984 edition of *Canadian Legislature*.

Each Member is provided with office accommodation and secretarial services in the National Assembly Building. Party caucuses are also allocated operating funds by the Office of the National Assembly. These funds are used to hire research assistance for Members, and all staff are employees of the individual caucus. In fiscal 1983–84 each caucus received a 30% increase in funding.

A program, administered by the Office of the National Assembly, provides office accommodation and personal assistance in Members' constituencies. The level of allowances in this program is dependent on the size of the particular constituency, and varies between $9,600 and $11,100 for office space ($12,000 if Member has 2 offices) and between $43,900 and $48,300 for staff ($51,600 if Member has 2 offices).

Québec Members may also make use of a research facility in the Legislative Library. A staff of 6 researchers provide non-partisan research to all Members, but not to Committees.

The Legislative Budget in Québec was reduced substantially in 1983–84; 18.03% less than the previous year. This reflected the general restraint trend in the Québec public service. One contributing factor to the lower Estimates was the reduction in the staff and budget in the Parliamentary Relations office, from 23 employees and $688,400 in 1982–83 to 9 employees and $345,100 in the present fiscal year. The cost of printing Bills was also substantially reduced during 1983.

On December 18, 1982, *An Act respecting the National Assembly* (Bill 90) became law. This new statute confirms the supremacy of Parliament and provides a clear and precise statement of the fundamental principles underlying the independence of the National Assembly. Among other things, the Bill outlines the rights, privileges and immunities of Members; the organization and operation of the House; the duties and responsibilities of Members and the Speaker; and the newly-formed body responsible for administration of the Assembly.

The Office of the National Assembly replaces the Committee of Internal Management as the body responsible for the financial management of the Assembly. The Office is chaired by the Speaker and is comprised of 4 Private Members from the Government Party and 3 Opposition Members. Members of the Office are paid an annual indemnity of $1,755. The Office is responsible for approving Committee budgets and establishing caucus funding levels.

The Office reviews the annual operating expenditures for the Assembly, and, once approved, they are delivered by the Speaker to the Minister of Finance for tabling along with the Government Estimates. The Estimates may not be altered by the Government after they have received the approval of the Office of the National Assembly.

Employees of the Office of the National Assembly continue to be civil servants.

As a result of the new organization of the National Assembly, the Committee structure has been altered. Committees must now approach the Office of the National Assembly for financial and personnel resources. Seven Clerks have been hired to provide staffing assistance to Committees. This is the first time that Committees have had full-time personnel to assist with research and administrative operations. Committees are empowered to examine any matter within the jurisdiction assigned to them by the Assembly. There are presently 9 Standing Committees, a significant reduction from 25 before the reorganization.

Bill 90 also outlines conflict of interest guidelines for Members. This is the first time they have been included in legislation.

During the 3rd session of the 32nd Legislature in 1982, the National Assembly passed 66 Bills. Up to June 23, 1983, 37 Acts were passed.

ONTARIO

Ontario is one of only 3 jurisdictions in Canada where remuneration for Members is not tied to an automatic annual adjustment. A statutory amendment to the *Legislative Assembly Act* is required each time a change is proposed. During 1983 *The Inflation Restraint Act* was in force in Ontario. It limited wage and salary increases for all public sector employees and elected Members, to a maximum of 5%. An adjustment of 4.86% to all indemnities, Ministerial salaries and the tax-free expense allowance was approved by the House, effective April 1, 1983.

No change was made to Committee allowances.

Members continue to receive $60 per meeting and travelling day when the House is not in session and a $27 per day non-accountable expense allowance.

The accommodation allowance for Members from outside Toronto was increased by 5% to $8,925 per year, effective April 1, 1983 ($9,925 for Cabinet Ministers and Opposition Leaders).

The basic allowance for travel between Toronto and Members' constituencies remained at 52 round trips per year by air, bus, train or car, but Members are now permitted to make 12 rather than 6 trips to other parts of the Province while on legislative business. Members' spouses or designated family members may use up to 6 of the Member's 52 trips by air and train between Toronto and the riding.

The pension plan for Members was not changed in 1983. They continue to contribute 8½% of all remuneration, excluding tax-free expenses, and are eligible for a pension benefit after 5 years of service, as long as their age plus years of service equals 55. Benefits are based on the highest 3-year average salary and Members may receive up to a maximum of 75% of this figure, after 20 years of service.

Members were provided with an optional vision care and hearing aid benefit during the past year. Otherwise, they continue to be eligible for group insurance coverage the same as employees of the Legislature. This includes extended health care, disability, life, dental and accident insurance.

No major changes took place in services provided to Members, either in Toronto or the constituency. Each Member continues to have the services of a personal assistant at the Legislature, and each caucus is funded by the Board of Internal Economy to provide research and support services. The 1983–84 funding levels total $1,227,600 for the Government; $736,600 for the Opposition; and $583,500 for the Third Party. The Opposition Leaders receive an additional allowance for staff ($326,300 for the Opposition and $267,200 for the Third Party).

Members are provided with office accommodation, staff, and postage and stationery allowances for operating a constituency office. The office accommodation allowance increased from $9,000 to $10,000 (11%) during 1983 and staff funding increased by 4.86% to $24,679. The postage and stationery allowance remained unchanged at $1,200.

Members may also take advantage of the research assistance provided by a staff of 14 in the Legislative Library. This non-partisan service is available to all Members, officers of the House, and Committees.

1983–84 Estimates for legislative operations increased by 5.82% over the previous year. This raises the total figure to $34,296,300.

Financial operations remain the responsibility of the Board of Internal Economy, a body comprised of the Speaker, 3 Cabinet Ministers and 1 Private Member from each of the three caucuses.

During 1983 the Legislature embarked on a pilot project aimed at automating Members' legislative offices. Six Members, 2 from each caucus, were selected, and terminals and printers have been installed in each office. The primary focus of the project is to provide an improved method of correspondence and file management for these Members, and to introduce them to office automation techniques and methods. Systems will be designed and developed over the one-year test period and, if successful, the program will be expanded in future years.

During 1982, 62 pieces of legislation were enacted in Ontario. When the 3rd session of the 32nd Legislature adjourned on June 21, 1983, 33 Bills had become law. The House resumed sitting in October.

MANITOBA

Under the terms of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, Manitoba Members were supposed to receive a 6.37% increase in their remuneration, effective April 1, 1983. However, the Legislature passed an amendment to the *Act* on August 10th of this year, which extended the rates at 1982 levels until June 18, 1983. The 6.37% increase took place at that time and is to remain in force until June 17, 1984. These provisions apply to the tax-free expense allowance and Ministerial salaries as well as the basic indemnity.

Effective April 1, 1983 the additional indemnity paid to the Speaker was increased by $3,500, plus an additional expense allowance of $3,000 when the House is not in session.

Committee per diems remained unchanged at $50, and there was no revision of the out-of-town Members' accommodation allowance. It remains at $40 per day and is available only when the House is sitting.

Members did receive an increase in their travel entitlement during 1983. They are now allowed up to 40 round trips per year between Winnipeg and their riding, up from 26. Members may use any means of transportation, but are not permitted to charge transportation costs within their constituencies. As of April 1, 1983, Members are allowed to use government air service if a plane is already making a trip for some other purpose and there is room on board for the Member.

Pension legislation for Members was not amended

during the past year. Members contribute 7% of all remuneration, including tax-free benefits, to the plan and are eligible to draw an allowance after 8 years service, as long as their age plus years of service equals 55. The pension level is based on the 5-year period in which the Member received the highest indemnity and is limited to a maximum of 70% of this figure.

Regulations governing group insurance coverage for provincial civil servants apply to Members of the Manitoba House. They receive life and dental insurance premium free and have the option of receiving extended health care, disability and accident insurance coverage.

Each Party caucus is supplied with a block of offices in the Legislative Building for use by its Members and caucus staff. Members share the services of one of 4 secretaries supplied to the caucus. In addition, each caucus is provided funding for secretarial and research based on $1,000 per Member. Pay rates for secretaries and researchers are set by the Legislative Assembly Management Commission.

Each Member is allocated $3,000 per year for operating a constituency office. These funds may be used for salaries, office expenses and supplies. The Legislative Assembly Management Commission has authority to fund constituency office operations and is presently reviewing the program.

During fiscal 1983–84, the operating Budget for the Manitoba Legislature increased by 16.08%, to $4,143,500, making it the jurisdiction with the second highest increase this year.

Effective August 15, 1983, The Legislative Assembly Management Commission was established by statute and given responsibility for the financial management of the Assembly. The Commission replaces the Board of Internal Economy and is comprised of the Speaker, as Chairman, 4 Private Members from the Government Caucus and 3 Members from the Opposition. Commissioners are paid a fee of $50 per meeting. The Commission has authority to report to the House and must do so at least once per year. In addition to the power to appoint employees of the Assembly and establish their salary levels, the Commission is responsible for providing services to Members and caucuses and determining Estimates for the operation of all legislative offices, including the Assembly, Provincial Auditor, Chief Electoral Office and the Ombudsman.

With respect to Estimates, once approved by the Commission they are forwarded to the Treasurer for further review. If the Treasurer plans to alter the Budget figures, he must first consult with the Commission.

The 1st session of the 32nd Manitoba Legislature began on February 25, 1982. It passed 53 pieces of legislation before adjourning on June 30th.

During the 2nd session in 1983, 114 Bills became law before the House adjourned on August 18th. Among those Acts was the *Elections Amendment Act* which required the Chief Electoral Officer to report to the Speaker after each election on the conduct of the election, and to make recommendations respecting amendments to the Act or changes in electoral procedures. The Speaker is required to table this report in the House.

The *Election Finances Act, 1983* and *The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Conflict of Interest Act* were also enacted on August 18th. Both of these statutes had not been proclaimed as of December 1, 1983.

The *Election Finances Act* is a major revision of the current 1980 statute. It goes into elaborate detail concerning all aspects of election contributions, expenditures and controls. The legislation governing conflict of interest outlines restrictions on participation by Members and Ministers in decisions taken in their roles as elected representatives when they have a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the outcome. It also requires all elected Members to file a statement with the Clerk within 15 days of the start of each session, disclosing specified assets and interests over $500.

SASKATCHEWAN

Under the terms of *The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, indemnity levels for Members and Ministers in the Saskatchewan House are adjusted annually in accordance with changes in the Industrial Composite Index. Applying this formula for 1983 would result in an 11% increase in all categories. Recognizing the desirability of restraining spending in the public sector, an amendment to the *Act* was introduced in 1982 which altered the regular indexing provisions by limiting increases in the basic indemnity to 6.5% and providing no increase in Ministerial salaries or additional indemnities paid to various office holders.

In January 1984 the Industrial Composite Index will apply to these adjusted 1983 figures.

The 1982 *Act* did not apply to Committee allowances. They were increased by 11% to $93 per day, plus actual accommodation, meal and travel expenses.

Accommodation allowances increased by 11% to $78 per sitting day for out-of-town Members. Saskatchewan also pays an accommodation allowance of $49 per sitting day for Members representing Regina ridings.

Travel entitlement remained the same during 1983.

Members may travel by air, bus, train or car and are provided an allowance based on the cost of 35 trips between Regina and the largest community in the Member's constituency, at civil service kilometric rates. This allowance is available only to Private Members and excludes the Speaker, Opposition Leader and Cabinet Ministers. The Opposition Leader is provided a car in lieu of the travel allowance.

Legislation governing pensions remained unchanged during 1983. Members contribute 9% of all remuneration to the Plan. The Government matches this contribution and increases its payment as Members get older. Members are entitled to receive a pension at age 55 after at least 1 year's service. Unlike most other pension plans for Members, Saskatchewan Members' benefits are not based on their highest years of contribution. Instead, Members purchase an annuity based on contributions made by both themselves and the Government. Members may choose to purchase an annuity which covers a surviving spouse. There is no maximum pension level established under the *act*, and benefits are indexed to rises in the cost of living.

Members are provided with optional life and disability insurance, but do not receive extended health care, dental or accident insurance.

In the area of services provided to Members, most entitlements are outlined in *The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*. This statute was amended in 1981 and indexed most allowances to rises in the I.C.I. Most entitlements received an 11% increase during 1983, including constituency office allowances and secretarial, sessional research and operating grants for caucuses. Members' secretarial services are provided through a pool of employees hired by the various caucuses. The salary rates for these positions are established by the Board of Internal Economy and were increased by approximately 6% during the past year. The Board of Internal Economy has authority to allocate research funds for party caucuses. These funds are provided in addition to the statutory caucus entitlements.

In their constituencies, Saskatchewan Members may rent an office or use the funds allocated for office accommodation to hire additional staff. The annual office allowance increased from $657 to $729 per month and the staff allowance from $9,696 to $10,372. Members also receive a non-accountable telephone allowance of $1,167 per year. Telephone costs in excess of this figure must be substantiated by receipts in order for Members to be reimbursed. During 1983 the Board of Internal Economy changed its policy relating to furniture purchased by Members for use in the constituency office. Formerly, Members personally acquired the furniture and were allowed to depreciate the costs at 20% per year. Under the new regulations, Members may charge purchase costs against the office allowance.

In 1982 the Opposition Leader's staff allowance was eliminated. This year it was reinstated in the amount of $73,042.

The Budget for legislative operations in 1983–84 increased by 5.84% to $7,808,790. No major additions were made to the staff complement of the Legislative Assembly Office and no major new programs were initiated during the year.

The Legislature continues to be regulated by the Board of Internal Economy, established by legislation in 1981. The Board is chaired by the Speaker and has representatives of the Cabinet and Private Members from both Parties.

A new video Hansard system began operation in Saskatchewan during 1983. Gavel-to-gavel coverage of proceedings of the House is produced by an in-house team of 3 employees. Tapes of proceedings are made available to Members upon request and proceedings are broadcast over large sections of the Province. Saskatchewan joins Québec and Ottawa as the only jurisdictions producing video coverage of the entire legislative proceedings.

Effective May 18, 1983, a new *Provincial Auditors Act* took effect in Saskatchewan. For the first time employees of the Auditor are part of the Legislative Assembly staff and not civil servants. The Auditor is appointed by Cabinet after consultation with the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. Upon appointment, the Auditor becomes an Officer of the Legislature and may be removed only for cause and only on the address of the Assembly. The Estimates of the Office of the Provincial Auditor continue to be reviewed by Treasury Board and not the Board of Internal Economy.

During the 2nd session of the 20th Legislature, the House sat from March 17 to June 17, 1983 and passed 120 Bills. 58 Bills were enacted during 1982.

ALBERTA

On January 1, 1983, Members and Ministers received a 5% adjustment to their indemnities and tax-free expense allowance. This increase complies with the provisions of the new *Legislative Assembly Act, 1983* which restricts annual adjustments to a maximum of 5%, based on increases in the Consumer Price Index in the previous year.

As of April 1, 1983, the Speaker's indemnity was

increased to equate with a Minister with portfolio, and the Deputy Speaker now receives half this amount.

The 1983 *Act* also provides a $25 per day increase in the allowance paid for Committee meetings when the House is not sitting, and establishes a $75 per diem accommodation allowance for out-of-town Members attending either a meeting of the House or a Committee. Members are also eligible for this $75 accommodation entitlement when the House is in recess, up to a maximum of 24 days per year.

Alberta Members are allowed unlimited travel between Edmonton and their constituencies and are issued airline and bus travel passes.

The pension plan provided to Members was not changed during 1983. Members continue to contribute 7½% of their indemnities, including their tax-free expense allowance and are eligible for a pension after serving for 5 years. Pension levels are based on the highest 3 consecutive years average earnings and are not subject to a maximum allowable amount.

Members are eligible to participate in group insurance plans, as determined by the Members' Services Committee. To date, the Committee has approved dental coverage and accident insurance of $150,000. Under the terms of the 1983 *Legislative Assembly Act*, Cabinet is given authority to provide disability benefits for Members who become mentally or physically disabled while holding office. These benefits are to equate as much as possible with long term disability benefits provided to civil servants. As of December 1st, the Cabinet had not yet established this benefit coverage.

During the past few years, the Governmnet of Alberta has been refurbishing the Legislative Building and has designated an adjoining building the "Legislative Annex". Due to competing demands for space within the Legislative Building, 13 Members have been moved to the Annex building during the past year. The Administrative Office of the Legislature will also be moving within the next few months. The Annex is connected by tunnel to the main Building.

Three Members are required to share the services of one secretary in their legislative offices in Edmonton. These employees are civil servants but are hired for the life of the current parliament only. Each caucus is provided with operational funds to cover salaries and a wide variety of services. Caucus staff are considered employees of the Legislative Assembly and receive corresponding benefits, with the exception of researchers, who are hired on contract.

Each Member is also provided with funds to operate a constituency office. Funding levels are established by the Members' Services Committee and the program is administered by the Administrative Office of the Assembly. During 1983 the constituency office allowance was increased from $13,750 to $14,700 (6.9%).

Members may also use the services of 6 research staff in the Legislative Library, who provide non-partisan research to all Members and Committees.

The Budget for the Alberta Legislative Assembly increased by 16.98% this year, to a total of $11,057,929. This comparatively large increase can be explained to some extent by the fact that two years' salary adjustments for all employees were included in the 1983–84 Budget, because decisions on 1982–83 salary increases were not made in time for that year's Estimates.

The Legislative Assembly Act, 1983 established a new Members' Services Committee chaired by the Speaker and including 7 Private Members of the Government Party and 2 Opposition representatives. The Committee is responsible for carrying out financial and personnel functions for the Legislature, and has power under the *Act* to exempt legislative operations from financial and personnel regulations in place in the civil service of Alberta. The Committee has final approval authority for all expenditures by the Legislative Assembly Office.

The new *Act* also formalizes the Legislative Assembly Office, presided over by the Speaker and consisting of the Clerk and other officers and employees required to assist in the conduct of the business of the House. Employees appointed under this *Act* remain civil servants.

During 1982, the Alberta House passed 41 Acts, including the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Amendment Act* and the *Legislative Offices Statutes Amendment Act*. The latter requires the Chief Election Officer and the Ombudsman to submit annual budgets to the Standing Legislative Offices Committee for approval and inclusion in the Government's Estimates. This Committee also reviews the Estimates for the Office of the Provincial Auditor. The *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Amendment Act* adjusts the maximum allowable contribution levels that can be made to political parties and candidates.

1983 marked the beginning of the 20th Legislature in Alberta and at the end of the spring sittings, 67 Bills had become law.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Until 1982, indemnity levels for Members of the British Columbia Legislative Assembly were indexed to the average weekly wage increase in the Province during the previous year. However, in 1982 the *Legislative*

Assembly Allowances and Pension Amendment Act removed this automatic indexing provision and limited increases to 1.9% for 1982. The *Act* suspended any further increase in indemnity levels indefinitely, until the statute is amended again. Consequently, Members received no increase in their remuneration during 1983.

Committee allowances and travel entitlements also remained unchanged during the past year. Members receive $50 per day for attending Committee meetings when the House is not sitting, and may travel to and from Victoria up to 36 times per year by air, bus, ferry or car. Members are also provided with up to $1,650 per year for travel within their constituency.

British Columbia Members from outside the capital are not given an allowance for accommodation while in Victoria. Expenses must be absorbed within their $13,349 tax-free expense allowance.

B.C. Members contribute 9% of all indemnity, salary and expense allowances to their pension plan. Members must be at least 55 years of age to collect a pension, and must have been elected in 2 general elections. Pension levels are based on the highest 4-year average salary. The maximum available pension is 72% of this average and is reached after 18 years of elected service.

Members have the option of participating in group insurance plans provided to civil servants in the Province. They include dental and life insurance, and extended health care, but do not include accident or disability coverage.

Each Member of the B.C. Legislature has an office in the Legislative Building, and is provided with a secretary during the session period. During the recess, secretarial assistance is provided by staff hired by the caucus out of funds allocated for that purpose by the Speaker. Caucus funding is restricted to secretarial and research staff salaries and is based on a formula of $24,000 per Member plus an additional allowance for each week the House is in session. The Opposition Leader also receives a separate staff allowance.

The Speaker determines the annual allowance provided to each Member for operating an office in the constituency. The 1983 level is $21,000 up from $19,800 in 1982. The Speaker's Office regulates the budget and all administrative aspects of the program.

The Legislative Assembly budget for 1983–84 is 9.63% lower than the previous year. Total estimated expenditures are $7,610,000 compared to $8,343,500 for 1982–83.

B.C. remains the only jurisdiction without some form of Board or Committee responsible for the financial operation of the Legislature. The Speaker is personally charged with administrative responsibility for the Assembly and carries out functions similar to Boards regulating operations in other provinces. Estimates, including moneys required for all services provided to Members, are prepared by the Speaker and submitted to Treasury Board for inclusion in the Government Estimates.

During 1983 a general election was held in British Columbia. The 33rd Legislature began sitting in the spring and as of October 18th, 24 pieces of legislation had received Third Reading. During the last session of the 32nd Legislature the House passed 78 Bills.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Adjustments to Members' remuneration in the Northwest Territories is set by statute at 8% per year. However, for fiscal years beginning on April 1, 1983 and 1984, the Federal Government's "6 & 5" program supercedes this provision. Committee allowances and out-of-town Members' accommodation allowances are similarly restricted to 6% increases as of April 1st of this year.

N.W.T. Members receive a per diem of $146.87 plus a non-accountable expenses allowance of $125 for each day that the House or a Committee is sitting, providing the Member resides outside the location where the meeting is being held.

When the House is in session, Members are allowed one round trip to their constituency after each 5 sitting days. Prior to 1983 this figure was 10 sitting days. This entitlement is in addition to 5 round trips during the off-session period and 2 trips per year by chartered aircraft around the Member's constituency.

Pension legislation for Members was amended during 1982. It is the only plan in Canada that does not require Members to make contributions. The pension benefits are based on the Member's highest four consecutive years average contributions and are payable as long as a former Member is at least 55 years of age and has held office for 6 years. Pension benefits are equal to 2% of the highest 4-year average per year of service up to 35 years.

Members receive the same group insurance benefits as Territorial civil servants, including disability, life and dental coverage.

Members share office space and secretarial services in Yellowknife. In their constituencies they receive annual allowances for staff and office expenses. No limits are imposed on office accommodation expenses as long as the rental arrangements receive the prior approval of the Management and Services Board.

Party politics has not reached the Northwest Terri-

tories. Consequently there are no caucuses, and research services for Members is provided by a single researcher, hired by the Legislative Assembly to assist all Members.

The Legislative Budget for 1983–84 decreased by 11.75% over 1982–83 levels, to a total of $2,953,000.

Effective March 9, 1983 The Council Ordinance was amended to create a new Management and Services Board which was given control over the financial operation of the Legislature and the provision of services to Members. This is the first time that a Board charged with these responsibilities has been outlined by legislation in the Territories. The Board is comprised of the Speaker who is Chairman, two Executive Members, the Chairman of the Finance Division of the Standing Committee on Finance and Public Accounts and one Private Member. Appointments to the Board are made by resolution of the Assembly and Members remain on the Board, unless replaced by resolution, until the subsequent Legislature replaces them.

The Board has authority to review and approve all expenditure requirements for the Legislative Assembly and to table them in the House without further review by the Executive. They are defended in the House by a member of the Board.

The Ordinance also provides for the creation of the Office of the Legislative Assembly, consisting of the Speaker, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Law Clerk, Sergeant-at-Arms and any other employees the Speaker requires. The Management and Services Board appoints all Officers of the House except the Clerk, who is appointed by the Commissioner on the recommendation of the Board. All other employees are appointed by the Speaker, who has authority, subject to the approval of the Board, to prescribe terms and conditions governing their employment.

The N.W.T. is one of only 4 jurisdictions that has established a public relations function in the Legislative Assembly. One employee carries out this role on behalf of the Assembly.

During 1983 the Legislative Assembly passed 46 pieces of legislation, compared to 44 during 1982.

YUKON

In November of 1982 the Yukon Legislature passed an amendment to *The Legislative Assembly Act* which reduced Members' indemnities and expense allowances to 1981 levels. These figures were adjusted on April 1, 1983 by half the average change in the Industrial Composite Index for workers in the Yukon. The legislation provides for an annual adjustment on this basis on April 1st of each year. As a result of this legislation, Private Members received a 1.69% increase in their indemnity levels. Cabinet Ministers and various legislative office holders received no increase.

Committee allowances, out-of-town accommodation expenses and travel entitlements for Members were not altered during 1983. Members may travel to and from their constituency as often as they wish during the session period and are entitled to 12 trips while the House is in recess. Members receive $29.80 for meals and actual expenses for accommodation on days when the House is sitting or when a Committee is meeting in the off-session period. An additional allowance of up to $2,200 per year is paid for accommodation in Whitehorse when the House is not sitting. Members do not receive per diems for Committee meetings.

The Yukon remains the only jurisdiction in Canada that has not implemented a pension plan for elected Members.

Members are entitled to participate in the group insurance plan provided to government employees. The plan includes extended health care, disability and life insurance.

Each Member of the Assembly is provided with an office in the Government of Yukon Building and secretarial services from the Clerk's Office. No constituency office program exists, but each caucus is provided with a research allowance and secretarial and operation expenses in Whitehorse. Caucus funding levels increased by 6% during 1983.

The Legislative Assembly budget topped the $1 million mark for the first time during 1983, an increase of 9.12% over 1982. Salary increases for legislative staff were covered by the *Public Sector Compensation Restraint (Yukon) Act* which became law on December 9, 1982. The act rolls back salary levels of all employees to December 31, 1981 and limits increases to a maximum of 6% before April 1, 1984 and another 5% by April 1, 1985.

No major changes have taken place in legislative operations during the past year. Staffing levels have remained essentially the same, with the exception of Hansard operations which are now provided by an outside service rather than in-house sessional staff.

Financial management of the Territorial Legislature remains in the hands of the Board of Internal Economy, consisting of the Speaker, Opposition Leader and Government Leader. The Board approves spending levels for Legislature and establishes funding levels for the party caucuses.

Eleven acts were passed by the House up to May 31, 1983. Thirty-five Bills became law during the 1st and 2nd sessions of the 25th Legislature in 1982.

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

Each legislative body has its own unique approach to serving its Members and administering its affairs. Needs and priorities vary, and these differences are reflected in the statistics contained in this section of *Canadian Legislatures*.

Legislative information has been gathered and compiled in four broad categories: indemnities, salaries, allowances and benefits provided to Members; support services; administrative structures; and House statistics.

The first chapter deals with the various monetary and non-monetary entitlements provided to Members in each jurisdiction. These include indemnity and salary levels, as well as travel and accommodation allowances, Committee allowances, pension plan provisions and insurance coverage.

Support services for Private Members are outlined in the second chapter. Services at the seat of government and in the constituency are compared, as well as an outline of caucus funding levels and research assistance available in each jurisdiction.

Legislative budgets, employee complements and organizational structures of each Legislature are compared in the third chapter. The financial management of each jurisdiction is outlined, together with a comparison of the bodies responsible for this function and the review procedure for legislative Estimates.

The fourth and final chapter outlines the configuration of the 13 Houses, including changes resulting from recent general elections. It also shows the Committee structures in place in each Legislature and the number of Acts passed by each House during the past five years.

Members Indemnities, Salaries, Allowances and Benefits

Each jurisdiction has its own approach to determining what is the most appropriate way of reimbursing elected Members for their dedication and service. Some provide more generous indemnity levels than others; others allow Members to rent accommodation at the seat of government; others have more attractive pension plans; and still others provide more elaborate insurance benefit packages or travel entitlements. It is impossible to arrive at a fair and accurate comparison of Members across the country by isolating one category of payment without taking into account the full range of perquisites provided in each jurisdiction. Readers are encouraged to keep this in mind when referring to the various categories of allowances and benefits contained in this Study. Individual categories are isolated merely to give readers easy access to specific information.

Table 7: MEMBERS' REMUNERATION IN 1983

H of C	— Statutory limitation of 6%
NFLD	— No increase
PEI	— No increase
NS	— Review by independent Commission appointed by Speaker
NB	— Government Members returned 10% of indemnity to province
	— Opposition Members donated 10% of indemnity to charity
QUÉ	— Statutory limitation of 6%
ONT	— Statutory limitation of 4.86%
MAN	— Indexing provision delayed for 2½ months
SASK	— Statutory limitation of 6.5%
ALTA	— Statutory limitation of 5%
BC	— No increase; indexing provision removed in 1982
NWT	— Statutory limitation of 6%
YUKON	— Statutory limitation of 1.69%

REMUNERATION ENTITLEMENTS

Until 1982 the basic remuneration paid to elected Members was tied to some form of indexing provision in all Canadian jurisdictions but Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Ontario. Newfoundland Members received whatever percentage increase was awarded to civil servants in the Province; Nova Scotia conducted a review every 4 years by an appointed Commission; and Ontario was required to amend the enabling legislation. Since 1982, each jurisdiction has taken some steps to limit increases which might otherwise have been awarded to indemnity levels.

In Québec and Saskatchewan, adjustments were restricted to the basic indemnity paid to all Members. Ministerial salaries, tax-free expenses allowances and additional indemnities remained at 1982 levels. Yukon Members received an adjustment to both basic indemnity and expense allowance, but not to other categories of remuneration.

Nova Scotia Members were restricted to a 6% increase in their indemnities during 1983. However, the base figure used for 1982 was the indemnity level recommended by the 1982 Commission of Inquiry on Remuneration of Elected Provincial Officials, rather

Table 8: REMUNERATION FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

Category	H of C	NFLD	PEI	NS	NB
Effective Date	*1 Jan 83*	*1 Apr 82*	*1 Apr 83*	*1 Jan 83*	*1 Jan 83*
PRIVATE MEMBERS					
Basic Indemnity	50,300	14,758	13,700	18,656	27,067
% increase during 1983	6%	0	0	13.75%	9.75%
Tax-free Allowance	*16,800	**7,378	6,600	9,328	10,827
ADDITIONAL INDEMNITY FOR VARIOUS OFFICE HOLDERS					
Prime Minister	57,500	40,000	37,400	37,630	36,992
Minister with Portfolio	38,500	29,000	26,400	29,150	24,662
Minister without Portfolio	38,500	14,500	N/A	N/A	18,496
Parliamentary Assistant	8,500	15,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Opposition Leader	38,500	29,000	21,000	29,150	24,662
Third Party Leader	23,200	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Speaker	38,500	29,000	8,000	29,150	18,496
Deputy Speaker	20,200	10,000	4,100	14,575	9,248
Deputy Chairman of Committee of Whole	8,500	5,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Standing Committee Chairmen	N/A	3,000	N/A	1,700	N/A
Standing Committee Vice Chairmen	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Deputy Government House Leader	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Opposition House Leader	19,000	15,000	N/A	2,000	N/A
Deputy Opposition House Leader	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Third Party House Leader	8,200	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chief Government Whip	10,600	3,090	N/A	3,230 ($85/Mem)	1,500
Assistant Government Whip	6,100	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chief Opposition Whip	10,600	3,090	N/A	1,020 ($85/Mem)	1,500
Assistant Opposition Whip	6,100	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chief Third Party Whip	6,100	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Assistant Third Party Whip	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of Members receiving more than basic indemnity	74 (26%)	28 (54%)	13 (40%)	43 (82%)	25 (43%)

* *Tax-free allowance is increased to $20,700 for 23 MPs and $22,300 for 2 MPs*

** *Members also receive travel allowance of $11,511 to $15,511 depending on distance to St. John's*

QUÉ	ONT	MAN	SASK	ALTA	BC	NWT	YUKON
1 Jan 83	*1 Apr 83*	*18 Jun 83*	*1 Jan 83*	*1 Jan 83*	*1 Jan 82*	*1 Apr 83*	*1 Apr 83*
37,202	33,345	21,216	19,970	24,310	26,698	16,613	20,974
6%	4.86%	6.37%	6.5%	5%	0	6%	1.69%
7,500	11,130	10,608	9,376	7,150	13,349	1,000	8,110
45,625	41,113	24,692	35,963	50,494	36,480	49,593	26,625
31,586	24,432	18,692	26,979	37,044	31,283	49,593	21,300
31,586	12,268	13,692	26,979	26,278	N/A	N/A	N/A
8,340	7,549	2,500	6,579	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
31,586	28,632	18,692	26,979	37,044	24,762	N/A	2,500
12,510	14,368	N/A	13,489	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,000
31,586	18,035	15,500	10,528	***37,044	24,762	6,000	6,000
14,038	7,549	3,500	6,250	***18,522	11,056	4,500	3,000
N/A	5,243	2,500	1,832	***9,261	N/A	3,000	N/A
4,170	4,089	N/A	1,832 /sess.	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,000
1,755	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8,340	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12,510	9,332	2,500	1,832 /sess.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6,950	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
11,120	7,025	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12,510	9,332	2,500	3,054	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6,950	6,396/ 4,613	N/A	1,832 /sess.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
10,528	6,396	2,500	3,054 /sess.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6,950	4,613	N/A	1,832 /sess.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	5,243	N/A	986 /sess.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	4,194	N/A	493 /sess.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
60 (49%)	74 (59%)	30 (52%)	48 (75%)	32 (40%)	23 (41%)	12 (55%)	9 (56%)

***1 Apr 83*

than the actual levels for 1982. This resulted in an actual increase of 13.75% rather than 6% during 1983.

If the basic remuneration paid to all Private Members, including tax-free expense allowances, in all jurisdictions is compared to the corresponding levels for 1982, the results show that 10 of the 13 jurisdictions awarded increases of 6% or less. The House of Commons increase, although restricted by statute to 6%, actually amounted to 8.4% because the base figure for 1982 included 6 months before the "6 & 5" program was introduced, when indemnity levels exceeded those established by the program.

Table 9: RANKING OF BASIC REMUNERATION PAID TO PRIVATE MEMBERS
(Sessional Indemnity plus Tax-Free Allowance)

1982		*1983*		*% increase*	
H of C	-$61,900	H of C	-$67,100	NS	-13.75%
QUÉ	- 42,596	QUÉ	- 44,702	NB	- 9.75%
ONT	- 42,400	ONT	- 44,475	H of C	- 8.40%
BC	- 40,047	BC	- 40,047	MAN	- 6.37%
NB	- 34,527	NB	- 37,894	NWT	- 5.63%
ALTA	- 29,962	MAN	- 31,824	ALTA	- 5.00%
MAN	- 29,916	ALTA	- 31,460	QUÉ	- 4.94%
YUKON	28,600	SASK	- 29,346	ONT	- 4.89%
SASK	- 28,128	YUKON	29,084	SASK	- 4.33%
NS	- 24,600	NS	- 27,984	YUKON	1.69%
NFLD	- 22,136	NFLD	- 22,136	BC	- 0%
PEI	- 20,300	PEI	- 20,300	NFLD	- 0%
NWT	- 16,673	NWT	- 17,613	PEI	- 0%

Effective April 1, 1983, the Speaker in Alberta is paid at the same rate as a Minister with Portfolio. Alberta becomes the 5th jurisdiction to equate these office holders, joining the House of Commons, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Québec.

COMMITTEE ALLOWANCES

P.E.I., Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and N.W.T. were the only jurisdictions to make any alterations to provisions governing Committee Allowances. P.E.I. created an allowance for the first time during 1983. It provides a $75 per diem for each Committee meeting day when the House is not sitting, plus $10 for meals and the costs of a round trip by car from the Member's constituency to Charlottetown. Nova Scotia removed the $75 per diem payable to Members attending meetings when the House was in recess, and restricted expense allowances to a maximum of $100 per day. Per diems were increased in Saskatchewan from $84 to $93; Alberta from $75 to $100; and in N.W.T. from $138.78 to $146.87. N.W.T. also increased the non-accountable expense allowance from $113.13 to $125 and Alberta established a limit of $75 for accommodation expenses for Committee meeting days.

Four jurisdictions restrict Committee Members to expense allowances only and do not permit Members to claim per diems (House of Commons, P.E.I., N.B. and the Yukon). Québec is the only province that does not provide an expense allowance associated with Committee meetings.

Table 10: COMMITTEE ALLOWANCES

a. per diem
b. expense allowance

H of C	*a.* None *b.* Travel costs paid by House of Commons - expense allowances: (*i*) within Canada: $40 per day S. of 60th parallel; $45 N. of 60th parallel (*ii*) outside Canada: higher of $50 per day or decided by Speaker based on particular circumstances of city - non-accountable
NFLD	*a.* $50 per day ($75 for Chairman) up to maximum of $2,000 ($3,000 for Chairman) for meeting days when House not sitting *b.* Actual expenses for accommodation and travel on submission of receipts
PEI	*a.* $75 per day when House not sitting *b.* $10 per meeting day for meals on submission of receipts, plus mileage at 21.3¢ per km
NS	*a.* $1,500 per year to cover meetings when House sitting; established by BOIE - last revision 1982 *b.* Up to $100 per day for accommodation, meals and travel on submission of receipts
NB	*a.* None - repealed in 1979 *b.* $200 per day non-accountable allowance for each day Committee meets, plus travel expenses; established by BOIE - last revision 15 July 1981
QUÉ	*a.* $50 per day when House not sitting *b.* None
ONT	*a.* $60 per day ($70 for Chairman) for meeting and travelling days when House not sitting or when Committee is travel-

COMMITTEE ALLOWANCES (con't)	
	ling whether or not House is sitting – last revision 1 April 1981 *b.* $27 per day non-accountable allowance; established by BOIE
MAN	*a.* $50 per day – last revision 1980 *b.* Expense accounts for accommodation, meals and travel are submitted to Provincial Auditor for approval; established by statute
SASK	*a.* $93 per day – tied to Industrial Composite Index – last revision 1 Jan. 1983 *b.* Actual expenses for accommodation, meals and travel on submission of receipts
ALTA	*a.* $100 per day when House not sitting – last revision 1983 *b.* Actual expenses for meals, travel, taxi and laundry on submission of receipts; $75 per day for accommodation; established by statute
BC	*a.* $50 per day ($100 for Chairman) when House not sitting – last revision 1975 *b.* Actual expenses for accommodation, meals and travel on submission of receipts; established by Speaker
NWT	*a.* $146.87 per day when House not sitting – normally 8% increase per year outlined in statute, but tied to federal 6 & 5 program for 1983 and 1984 – last revision 1 April 1983 *b.* $125 per day non-accountable allowance for Members residing outside locality where Committee meeting being held; $33.38 per day if meeting held in Member's riding; established by statute
YUKON	*a.* None *b.* $29.80 per day for meals plus actual expenses for accommodation, plus travel expenses equivalent to rates paid to civil servants (20¢ per km for car or actual expenses for other modes of travel) – available only if Committee meets on day House not sitting

ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCE

Some form of accommodation allowance for Members representing ridings outside the capital is available in all jurisdictions except H. of C., P.E.I. and B.C. Ontario and Québec provide annual maximum allowances, while most other jurisdictions permit per diem claims for days when the House is in session. Nova Scotia Members may claim a per diem whether or not the House is sitting. The Yukon reimburses Members for actual accommodation expenses when the House is in session.

Table 11:	ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCE
H of C	None
NFLD	Established by BOIE and reviewed on ad hoc basis: $59.40 per day when House sitting; Member restricted to rental accommodation
PEI	None
NS	Established and reviewed by BOIE – last revision 1 Jan. 1983: up to $50 per day on submission of receipts
NB	Established and reviewed by BOIE (1972): $40 for accommodation and $30 for meals on days House sitting; Ministers are not eligible
QUÉ	Established and reviewed by BOIE (1968): $6,800 per year – Premier excluded – Speaker provided with apartment in Legislative Building; Member may rent or buy – allowance based on rental value
ONT	Established and reviewed by BOIE (1974) – last revision 1 April 1983: up to $8,925 for Members – $9,925 for Ministers and Party Leaders – Speaker provided with apartment in Legislative Building; Member may rent or buy
MAN	Established by statute: $40 per day when House sitting – Speaker provided with apartment in Legislative Building
SASK	Established by statute (1972): $49 per day for Regina Members – $78 per day for other Members while House sitting – includes Speaker; tied to Industrial Composite Index
ALTA	Established by statute: $75 per day when House is sitting – $75 per day to maximum of 24 days per year when House not sitting – includes Speaker
BC	None

ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCE (con't)	
NWT	Established by statute (1975): $125 non-accountable allowance per day when House sitting - normally annual 8% increase, but tied to federal 6 & 5 program for 1983 and 1984; Member may rent or buy
YUKON	Actual expenses for accommodation plus $29.80 per day for meals when House sitting - no maximum - excludes Ministers; up to maximum of $2,200 per year when House not sitting - available to all Members & Ministers from ridings outside Whitehorse

TRAVEL ALLOWANCES

It has been recognized by all jurisdictions that some provision should be made to allow Members to travel between the capital and their constituency. Entitlement varies from one round trip by car on days the House is sitting in P.E.I. to unlimited air, bus or automobile travel in Alberta.

During 1983 several provinces altered travel entitlements. Nova Scotia eliminated the distinction between travel when the House is in session and in recess and now permits 52 round trips per year. Ontario increased business travel allowances from 6 to 12 trips around the Province, other than to the Member's riding. P.E.I. created a new allowance for travel during the inter-session period. Members may make up to 3 round trips by car between their constituencies and the capital. Manitoba Members may now claim the cost of 40 rather than 26 trips, and N.W.T. Members may return to their constituencies after each 5 rather than 10 sitting days.

Seven jurisdictions (H. of C., N.S., Québec, Ontario, Alberta, B.C. and N.W.T.) provide Members with an additional allowance for travel within the constituency. Nova Scotia created this allowance for the first time during 1983. On the other hand, New Brunswick revoked the $65 per month allowance in this category during the past year.

Table 12:	TRAVEL ALLOWANCES
H of C	Established and reviewed by BOIE - established 1963 - last reviewed in April 1983: maximum 52 travel points per year for travel between Ottawa and constituency - 10 of 52 may be used for travel outside constituency - 3 of 10 may be used by spouse and/or designated family member - 9 of 52 may be used by spouse, designated family member and/or full-time eligible staff; travel within constituency by road, water or air limited to between $1,100 and $5,500 per year depending on type of riding - restricted to Member SPECIFIC REGULATIONS: *Air:* 1st class for Member, spouse or designated family member - 1st class entitlement established 1980; economy class for staff *Bus or Boat:* within allowance *Train:* Unlimited travel: Via Rail pass issued to Member and family *Car:* Unlimited travel to and from Ottawa at 22¢ per km to maximum of cost of round trip air travel
NFLD	Established and reviewed by BOIE: maximum 12 trips per year by any mode of transportation SPECIFIC REGULATIONS: *Air:* Economy class; established 1 Jan. 1980 *Bus or Boat:* Within allowance *Train:* No train service *Car:* Tied to civil service rates - 30¢ per mile, (18.75¢ per km) - effective 1 Jan 1983; restricted to travel between constituency and capital - no allowance within constituency
PEI	Established by statute: allowance restricted to car travel: Established by resolution of House: 1 round trip per sitting day - 3 trips per month when House not sitting - tied to civil service rates - 21.3¢ per km; restricted to travel between constituency and capital - no allowance within constituency
NS	Established and reviewed by BOIE: maximum 52 trip per year by any mode of transportation - reimbursed on submission of receipts SPECIFIC REGULATIONS: *Air:* Economy class *Bus and Train:* Within allowance *Car:* 24.4¢ per km; up to $1,600 for travel within constituency
NB	Established 1972 by statute: maximum 25 trips per year by any mode of transportation while House not sitting; includes up to 2 nights accommodation at $40 per night and 3 days meals at $30 per day; 1 return journey for each week or part of week while House in session

TRAVEL ALLOWANCES (con't)

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

Air: No requirement of economy class;
Bus and Train: Within allowance
Car: Within allowance; tied to civil service rates - up to 7,000 kms 21¢, 7,000–14,000 kms 19½¢, over 14,000 kms 17¢; no travel allowance within constituency

QUÉ — Established and reviewed by BOIE: first established 1969: maximum 52 trips per year by any mode of transportation, based on distance from Québec City to constituency - 20¢ per km - includes accommodation expenses based on rates for civil servants

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

Air: Economy class; additional allowance of between $1,300 and $10,400 per year for travel within Québec but outside constituency, depending on classification of riding
Bus and Train: Within allowance; reimbursed on submission of receipts
Car: Unlimited to and from constituency - 20¢ per km; additional allowance of between $1,300 and $10,400 per year for travel within constituency, depending on classification of riding (excluding urban Members)

ONT — Established and reviewed by BOIE: by any mode of transportation

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

Air: Maximum 52 trips per year - 6 of 52 may be used by spouse or family member; up to 12 trips for business travel around province; special allowance of up to $2,730 for 4 Northern Members; economy class
Bus and Train: Unlimited travel; up to 6 trips per year may be used by spouse or family members
Car: Unlimited both to and from capital and within constituency; 24¢ per km for Southern Members and 25¢ for Northern Members

MAN — Established by statute: maximum 40 trips per session by any mode of transportation based on distance from Winnipeg to constituency

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

Air: Within allowance
Bus and Train: Within allowance
Car: Unlimited to and from constituency; no allowance for travel within constituency; tied to civil service rates

SASK — Established by statute: by any mode of transportation - travel allowance based on formula: 35 x distance between largest centre in constituency and Regina + *10,000 kms x civil service kilometric rate (* if constituency is >2,000 square kms then increased to 30,000 kms) - not available to Cabinet Ministers, Speaker or Opposition Leader

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

Air: Special allowance for Northern Members - 2 return trips per year by air from Member's residence to areas in constituency that can be reached by air
Bus: Within allowance; bus passes issued
Train: Within allowance
Car: Within allowance

ALTA — Established and reviewed by BOIE: by any mode of transportation

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

Air: Unlimited travel; economy class; airline credit card issued
Bus: Unlimited bus travel; bus passes issued
Train: No train travel
Car: Unlimited travel both to and from capital & within constituency; credit card issued

BC — Established by Speaker in 1978: all modes of transportation - maximum 36 trips per year; spouse may use any number and dependents may use up to 6 of 36

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

Air: Economy class
Bus and Ferry: Bus and ferry passes issued
Train: No train travel
Car: Additional allowance of up to $1,650 per year for travel within constituency

NWT — Established by statute

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

Air: 2 trips per year within constituency by chartered aircraft or economy class; 5 trips to Yellowknife when House not sitting; after 5 sitting days Member may either travel to riding or bring spouse to Yellowknife
Bus and Train: None
Car: Up to 4,800 kms per year at 24.5¢ per km - includes to and from capital and within constituency; tied to civil service rates

YUKON — Established by statute; unlimited travel while House is sitting; up to 12 return trips when House not sitting

TRAVEL ALLOWANCES (con't)

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

Air: Economy class
Bus and Train: None
Car: Within allowance - 20¢ per km - tied to civil service rate; no allowance for travel within constituency

SEVERANCE ALLOWANCE

During the past year, Québec became the fourth jurisdiction to establish a severance allowance for Members leaving office. Details of this new provision are discussed in the chapter outlining the State of Legislature in Québec.

Ontario pays Members half their basic indemnity at the time of leaving office; the House of Commons pays half of all indemnities; and Nova Scotia Members receive one quarter of their sessional indemnity.

PENSION BENEFITS

The Yukon remains the only legislative body that does not have some form of pension plan for its elected Members. Québec was the only province to undertake major revisions to the pension scheme during the past year (see the chapter outlining the State of the Legislature in Québec for a full discussion).

Contribution levels vary from a low of 6½% in P.E.I. to highs of 9% in B.C. and Saskatchewan, 10% in Québec and 11% in the House of Commons. The N.W.T. has a non-contributory plan. The following table highlights details of the various plans.

Table 13: PENSION BENEFITS

a. contribution level
b. minimum age requirement
c. minimum service requirement
d. basis of pension calculation
e. maximum pension level
f. post-retirement adjustment
g. spousal benefit

H of C
a. Compulsory contribution of 11% of basic indemnity - optional contribution of up to 11% of all additional indemnities and salaries (excluding tax-free allowance) - contributions of basic indemnity cease when Member has earned full pension
b. No minimum age
c. Minimum of 6 years service
d. Highest 6 consecutive years average
e. 75% of d.
f. Indexed to rise in CPI - retired Members are not entitled to indexing until age 60 - at age 60 retired Members receive benefit of all indexing awarded since date of retirement
g. 60% of Member's allowance, plus 10% for each dependent child

NFLD
a. 7% of all indemnities and salaries (excluding tax-free allowance) - contributions matched by L.A.
b. Age plus years of service = 60 (55 for Premier)
c. Minimum of 5 years service and 2 general elections
d. Highest 3-year average as Member - if Member serves as Minister then 2 separate calculations (i.e. highest 3-year average as Member plus highest 3-year average as Minister)
e. 75% of d.
f. Requires amendment to statute
g. Greater of 60% of Member's allowance or 25% of last pensionable earnings as MHA, plus 1/6 of allowance for each dependent child - total spousal allowance may not exceed level of allowance Member was receiving at time of death

PEI
a. 6½% of all indemnities and salaries (including tax-free allowance) - L.A. contributes 26% (4 x Member's contribution)
b. Minimum 50 years of age
c. 2 general elections or minimum of 8 years elected service
d. 75% of contributions
e. Average of last 5 years as Member - Minister's pension cannot exceed 50% of highest year salary
f. Indexed to rise in CPI - 8% per year maximum
g. 50% of Member's allowance - no allowance for dependent children

NS
a. 8% of all indemnities and salaries (including tax-free allowance) - contributions matched by Government
b. Age 55
c. 10 years elected service
d. Highest 5-year average
e. 75% of d.
f. Indexed to rise in CPI
g. 50% of Member's allowance - no allowance for dependent children

PENSION BENEFITS (con't)

NB

a. 9% of all indemnities (excluding tax-free allowance) - 6% of Ministerial salary - contributions matched by L.A.
b. No minimum age
c. Minimum of 10 sessions
d. Highest 3-year average
e. No maximum level
f. Indexed to rise in CPI - 6% per year maximum
g. 50% of Member's allowance - no allowance for dependent children

QUÉ

a. 10% of all indemnities (excluding tax-free allowance) up to amount of personal exemption under Q.P.P. + 8.2% of excess up to level of maximum pensionable earnings under Q.P.P. + 10% of remainder
b. Age plus years of service = 65; minimum age 60; reduced pension at age 55; Member must draw pension at age 71 even if still a Member
c. 5 years service during 2 Legislatures
d. Highest 3-year average
e. 70% of d.
f. Indexed to rise in pension index under Q.P.P. - no maximum
g. Member may elect to replace pension with life annuity, with benefit passing to surviving spouse; election must be made before pension begins; can be either 100% or 50% of Member's entitlement, adjusted accordingly by acturial analysis

ONT

a. 8½% of all indemnities and salaries (excluding tax-free allowance) - contributions matched by L.A.
b. Age plus years of service = 55
c. Minimum of 5 years service
d. Highest 3-year average
e. 75% of d.
f. Speaker has statutory authority to adjust existing pensions, subject to BOIE approval
g. 60% of Member's allowance, plus 10% for each dependent child to maximum of 3 children

MAN

a. 7% of all indemnities and salaries (including tax-free allowance)
b. Age plus years of service = 55
c. Minimum of 8 years service or 2 general elections
d. Highest 5-year average
e. 70% of d.
f. Indexed to yearly rise in CPI - no maximum
g. 60% of Member's allowance - no allowance for dependent children

SASK

a. 9% of all indemnities and salaries (including tax-free allowance) - contributions matched by Government - Government increases contribution as age of Member increases (adds 2% if Member between 41-50 - adds 4% if Member 51 and older)
b. age 55
c. 1 year minimum service
d. Purchased annuity based on contributions
e. No maximum level
f. Automatically increased by amount equal to any increase awarded to retired civil servants
g. Guaranteed Life Annuity and/or postponed guaranteed Life Annuity based on amount of contributions

ALTA

a. 7½% of all indemnities (including tax-free allowance) - Ministerial salaries excluded - contributions matched by L.A.
b. No minimum age required
c. 5 pensionable years service
d. Highest 3 consecutive years average
e. No maximum level
f. Indexed to rise in cost of living
g. 75% - 80% of Member's allowance - no allowance for dependent children

BC

a. 9% of all indemnities and salaries (including tax-free allowance) - contributions matched by L.A.
b. Age plus years of service = 60; minimum age 55
c. Elected in 2 general elections
d. Highest 4-year average
e. 72% of d.
f. Indexed to rise in CPI
g. Eligible to receive allowance if Member had elected to have a joint life and last survivor plan

NWT

a. No contribution by Member
b. Age 55
c. Minimum of 6 years service or 2 general elections
d. Highest 4 consecutive years average
e. No maximum level
f. Indexed to rise in benefit index under Supplementary Retirement Benefit Act of Canada
g. 60% of Member's allowance, plus 10% for each dependent child to maximum of 4 children

YUKON *a. b. c. d. e. f. g.* N/A

Support Services for Private Members

The range of support services provided to Private Members varies considerably among the 13 jurisdictions. Some Legislatures, and certainly the House of Commons, are comprised of Members who dedicate their full-time energies to the responsibilities of elective office. In some of the smaller provinces this is not the case, nor is it likely to be in the near future. Members of Legislatures that sit most of the year require support services on a full-time basis, and Legislatures are not able to make do with sessional staff. It appears that as Legislatures approach full-time status, Members require more elaborate support structures and Legislatures respond accordingly.

Support services can be divided into 4 general areas: at the Legislature; in the constituency; caucus services; and research services. Each will be discussed separately.

SERVICES AT THE LEGISLATURE

As Houses expand on redistribution and services to Members improve, more bodies must be accommodated within the Legislative Buildings.

Many Legislatures find that the elegant old Buildings are simply not big enough to house all legislative operations, and although efforts are made to provide adequate office space at the seat of government, in many instances necessity has dictated moves to outside locations.

Newfoundland, Québec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, B.C. and the Yukon have managed to accommodate all Private Members in the main Legislative Building. During the past year 14 Alberta Members have been moved from the Legislative Building to an Annex, connected by tunnel. The House of Commons, P.E.I., Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have been forced to find office accommodation outside the Legislature.

One answer to this problem appears to be the designation of a nearby building as a Legislative Annex. This step was taken in Ottawa where Members are housed in either the Centre Block or three other outside buildings. All 4 buildings have been designated as the precincts of Parliament.

Other jurisdictions, including Alberta, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P.E.I. are at various stages of consolidating legislative office space in an Annex of some sort.

Secretarial services are provided to all Members at the Legislature. In some instances secretaries are hired on a full-time basis by the various caucuses, while in others these services are only available when the House is sitting. During 1983, there were no major changes to the legislative office staff entitlements. Manitoba increased the number of secretaries provided to each caucus by 1, and Alberta now provides 1 secretary for every 3 rather than 4 Members. Salary adjustments for secretarial staff were awarded in most jurisdictions, with the exception of the House of Commons and B.C.

Householder mass mailings are permitted in 8 of the 13 jurisdictions. The numbers vary from 4 per year in the House of Commons; to 2 per year in Québec, Ontario and the Yukon; to 1 per year in Manitoba, B.C. and N.W.T. Newfoundland reduced the allow-

able number from 4 to 2 per year during 1983. In Saskatchewan, Alberta and Nova Scotia, the cost of the mailings must be charged against the Member's communications or postage allowance, and in P.E.I. and New Brunswick no allowance is available.

Table 14: SUPPORT SERVICES AT LEGISLATURE

a. office; b. staff; c. office mail; d. telephone

H of C

a. 1 office per Member – space allocated by Speaker; office supplies and equipment provided by H of C

b. Total allowance of $86,600 for both Ottawa and constituency offices – maximum of $69,177 for Ottawa – any number of employees allowed – staff are employees of Member – no union; Member may rent desk top copier, electronic memory typewriter or word processor, automatic telephone answering equipment or commercial typesetting service and charge to this allowance

c. Unlimited volume

d. Paid by H of C – unlimited access to direct dial Government phone network – unlimited long distance to constituency if not on Government network – other long distance in Canada and U.S. must be placed through Government operator; credit cards issued for use outside Ottawa-Hull in specific circumstances

NFLD

a. Premier, Ministers and Opposition Leader have separate offices – 1 office for every 2 Private Members – space allocated by Speaker; supplies and equipment provided by Clerk's Office

b. 1 secretary for every 2 Members – BOIE establishes entitlement; salary range is $14,602 to $15,780 for Private Members and $18,817 to $25,539 for Ministers and Opposition Leader – salary rates tied to civil service; staff are employees of L.A. – no union

c. Unlimited volume – restricted to legislative business

d. Unlimited regular and long distance – paid by L.A.; unlimited telex; credit cards issued

PEI

a. Block of offices supplied to each caucus – space allocated by BOIE; office supplies and equipment provided by L.A.

b. Government caucus has 2 secretaries – Opposition caucus has 2 secretaries and 1 researcher – entitlement established by BOIE; salary range for secretary is $14,550 to $20,830 and for researcher is $37,650 – salary rate established by caucus; staff are casual employees of L.A. – no union

c. Only when House is sitting

d. Unlimited regular and long distance paid by L.A.; no credit cards

NS

a. Each caucus supplied with block of offices – space allocated by Speaker; supplies and equipment provided by L.A.

b. Each caucus given funds for secretarial purposes – number of employees is up to caucus; salary range is $16,661 to $18,493 – range tied to civil service; employees are hired for 4 year term by L.A. – no union

c. Postage allowance of $2,100 per year per Member – paid by L.A.

d. Unlimited regular and long distance paid by L.A.; no credit cards

NB

a. Each caucus supplied with block of offices – space allocated by BOIE; supplies and equipment provided by Clerk's Office

b. Each caucus has 3 employees (2 secretaries, 1 research); salary range for secretary is $15,548 to $20,098 and for research $25,246 to $31,668 – entitlement and salary range established by BOIE; employees of L.A. – no union

c. Charged to caucus allowances

d. Unlimited regular and long distance within New Brunswick; credit cards issued

QUÉ

a. 1 office per Member – space allocated by Speaker; furniture provided by Government department – supplies and equipment provided by L.A.

b. 1 secretary per Member – entitlement established by BOIE; salary range is $17,843 to $19,797 – range established by civil service; employees are civil servants – no union.

c. Unlimited volume – paid by Government.

d. Unlimited regular and long distance paid by Government; credit cards issued

ONT

a. 1 office per Member – space allocated by Speaker; supplies and equipment provided by L.A.

b. 1 secretary/assistant per Member; salary range is $18,185 to $24,679 – entitlement and salary range established by BOIE; employees of caucus – 1 caucus is unionized

c. Unlimited volume – paid by L.A.

d. Unlimited regular and long distance – paid by L.A.; credit cards issued

SUPPORT SERVICES AT LEGISLATURE (con't)

MAN
a. Each caucus supplied with block of offices - space allocated by Department of Government Services; furniture and equipment provided by Government but maintained and replaced by L.A.
b. 4 secretaries for each caucus; salary range is $18,300 to $23,400 - entitlement and salary range established by BOIE; employees are civil servants - no union
c. Unlimited volume - paid by L.A.
d. Long distance limited to calls within Manitoba - paid by L.A.; no credit cards

SASK
a. 1 office per Member - equipment and supplies provided by L.A.
b. Each caucus has pool of full time and sessional employees; salary range is $17,988 to $21,420 - entitlement and salary range established by L.A.; employees of L.A. - no union
c. Communications allowance equal to 3 × number of registered voters in Member's constituency
d. Unlimited regular and long distance - paid by L.A.; no credit cards

ALTA
a. 1 office per Member - space allocated by Premier; equipment and supplies provided by Clerk's Office
b. 1 secretary per 3 Members - entitlement established by BOIE; salary range is $19,428 to $25,188 - range tied to civil service; employees are civil servants but are hired only for the life of the parliament - no union
c. Unlimited volume - paid by L.A.
d. Unlimited regular and long distance - paid by L.A.; credit cards issued

BC
a. 1 office per Member - space allocated by Speaker; furniture supplied by Government - supplies and equipment provided by Speaker's Office
b. Each caucus provided with funds to hire secretarial and research staff; entitlement established by Speaker; salary range established by caucus; employees of L.A. - no union
c. Unlimited volume - paid by Government
d. Unlimited regular and long distance - paid by Government; credit cards issued for use within B.C.

NWT
a. 1 office for every 2 Members - space allocated by Speaker; equipment and supplies provided by L.A.
b. Sessional staff supplied by L.A. as required - inter-session requirements are supplied by Clerk's Office; casual employees in civil service - some unionized, depending on status in civil service
c. Unlimited volume - paid by L.A.
d. Unlimited regular and long distance during session - paid by L.A.; no credit cards

YUKON
a. 1 office per Member - space allocated by Speaker; equipment and supplies provided by Government (L.A. is part of Government)
b. Staff supplied by Clerk's Office on request basis
c. Unlimited volume - paid by L.A.
d. Limited to $500 long distance per Member per year - no credit cards

IN THE CONSTITUENCY

Newfoundland, New Brunswick, P.E.I. and the Yukon remain the only jurisdictions with no form of constituency office program. Of the remaining 9 legislative bodies, most received adjustments to funding levels during 1983.

The basic office allowance increased from $9,200 to $9,750 in Ottawa; $8,800 to $9,600 in Québec; $9,000 to $10,000 in Ontario; and $7,884 to $8,748 in Saskatchewan. The global allowance available to Members in B.C. was raised from $19,800 to $21,000 and in Alberta from $13,750 to $14,700. In Manitoba and Nova Scotia the allowance remained at 1982 levels. N.W.T. does not fix a limit on office rental costs - Members must receive the approval of the Management and Services Board for any rental agreement.

Specific staff allowances are provided in the House of Commons, Québec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and N.W.T. In Ottawa, Members must use at least $17,423 of their $86,600 overall staff allowance in their constituency. This figure remained unchanged during 1983. Québec Members received an increase of $4,400 (11%); Ontario $1,143 (4.86%); and Saskatchewan $676 (7%). In N.W.T. the allowance increased from $900 to $2,400 per year, but Members are now required to charge interpretation costs to this allowance.

Table 15: SUPPORT SERVICES IN CONSTITUENCY

a. general; b. categories of allowances; c. staff; d. mail; e. telephone; f. administration

H of C

a. Annual allowance established by BOIE - first established 1973

b. Minimum of $17,423 for staff (can use up to $86,600); up to $9,756 for operation of office; $1,000 per parliament to assist Member with purchase or rental of furniture and equipment

c. MPs must use at least $17,423 of their $86,600 annual staff allowance to hire staff in constituency - no upper limit - staff are employees of Member - pay rate established by Member - no restriction on numbers - payroll service provided by H of C

d. Charged to office operations allowance

e. Calls within capital region, province where constituency located and to all Government office paid by H of C - other long distance calls, collect calls and monthly phone costs charged to office operations allowance - H of C pays for optional toll-free calling within Member's constituency

f. Responsibility of House of Commons Administration Office - formal guidelines prohibit partisan political activity, employment of spouse or children of Member, use of Member's home, use of office for campaign purposes - furniture and supplies provided by either H of C or local supplier

NFLD

a. No program

b. c. d. e. f. N/A

PEI

a. No program - Member may use office space on a weekly basis in any of 5 regional offices run by Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, free of charge

b. c. d. N/A

e. L.A. pays installation cost of a private phone line for all rural Members plus monthly charges equalized to the lowest rate in the Province - established by BOIE

f. N/A

NS

a. Monthly allowance established by BOIE

b. $250 per month for services in constituency - up to $250 per month for actual expenses for office space, equipment and secretarial services, on submission of receipts

c. No specific allowance - staff are employees of Member - no restriction on numbers - paid on fee-for-service basis on submission of account

d. Charged to office allowance

e. Charged to office allowance

f. Responsibility of Speaker's Office - no formal restrictions on use of office; furniture and equipment may be purchased or leased by Member and charged to office allowance

QUÉ

a. Annual allowance established by BOIE

b. Between $9,600 and $11,100 for office depending on classification of riding ($12,000 if Member has 2 offices); between $43,900 and $48,300 for staff ($51,600 if Member has 2 offices) - 4% of staff allowance for severence pay; actual operating expenses reimbursed on submission of receipts - no maximum

c. $43,900 to $48,300 maximum depending on classification of riding ($51,600 maximum if 2 offices) - staff are employees of Member - no restriction on numbers - on payroll of L.A.

d. Paid by L.A. on submission of receipts - no maximum

e. Regular and long distance costs paid by L.A. on submission of receipts - no maximum

f. Responsibility of L.A. office - formal guidelines prohibit partisan political activity, use of Member's home, use of office for campaign purposes; furniture and equipment may be rented by Member and charged to office allowance - option not available if furniture or equipment bought

ONT

a. Annual allowance established by BOIE - first established 1976

b. Up to $10,000 for office; up to $24,679 for staff - 4% of staff allowance for vacation pay; up to $1,200 for postage, stationery and supplies

c. Up to $24,679 - staff are employees of Member - pay rate established by Member - no restriction on numbers - on payroll of L.A.

d. Up to $1,200 for postage, stationery and supplies

e. Regular and long distance costs paid by L.A. - no maximum - L.A. pays for toll-free calling within Member's constituency

f. Responsibility of L.A. Administrative Office - formal guidelines prohibit partisan political activity, employment of spouse or

SUPPORT SERVICES IN CONSTITUENCY (con't)

children of Member, use of office for campaign purposes; furniture and equipment may be rented by Member and charged to office allowance – if purchased Member may depreciate cost at rate of 20% per year

MAN
a. Annual allowance established by statute
b. $2,500 global allowance – restricted to salaries and operating costs; $500 per year for special supplies and operating allowance
c. No specific allowance – included in global allowance
d. Charged to global allowance
e. Charged to global allowance
f. No formal administration

SASK
a. Annual and monthly allowances established by statute – first established 1979
b. $10,372 per year for staff – $729 per month for office or staff; $1,167 per year for telephone without receipts – unlimited telephone with receipts.
c. $10,372 per year – staff are employees of Member – pay rate established by statute (½ of top range of Clerk/Steno 3) – Member may also use office allowance to hire staff – no restriction on numbers – on payroll of L.A.
d. Charged to communications allowance – equal to 3 × cost of 1st class letter × number of registered voters in Member's constituency
e. Up to $1,167 per year without receipts; unlimited with receipts; monthly costs may be charged to either telephone allowance or office allowance
f. Responsibility of Clerk's Office – no formal guidelines on use of office – furniture and equipment may be rented or bought by Member and charged to office allowance

ALTA
a. Annual allowance established by BOIE – Speaker given authority to increase allowance – first established 1979
b. $14,700 for rent and staff
c. Included in global allowance – staff are contract employees of L.A. – paid on fee-for-service basis – no restriction on numbers
d. Charged to global allowance
e. Charged to global allowance
f. Responsibility of L.A. Administrative Office – formal guidelines prohibit partisan political activity, use of offices during election campaign period – typewriter, dictaphone, transcriber and telephone answering service provided by L.A. – furniture provided by Government department

BC
a. Annual allowance established by Speaker – first established 1973
b. Global allowance of $21,000 for salaries, office expenses, stationery and supplies and related expenses
c. Included in global allowance – staff are employees of Member – pay rate established by Member – no restriction on numbers
d. Charged to global allowance
e. Charged to global allowance
f. Budget and administrative guidelines prepared by Speaker's Office – furniture and equipment may be rented or bought by Minister and charged to global allowance

NWT
a. Annual allowance established by statute – first established 1975
b. $125 for office supplies – $600 for advertising – furniture supplied by L.A. on loan basis; office rental arrangement must be approved by BOIE – no limit on costs
e. $2,400 per year, including interpretors – staff are employees of Member – pay rate established by Member – no restriction on numbers
d. Unlimited
e. Telephone allowance of $1,500 per year for long distance – credit cards issued
f. Responsibility of Speaker's Office

YUKON
a. No program
b. c. d. e. f. N/A

CAUCUS SERVICES

The Board of Internal Economy, or its equivalent, has authority to establish funding levels for party caucuses in 10 jurisdictions. The Speaker retains this authority in B.C., and in Manitoba they are established by statute. In Saskatchewan, the Board of Internal Economy establishes research allowance levels, but secretarial assistance and operational grants are outlined in statute. N.W.T. Members do not belong to party caucuses and receive no funds in this category.

Funding levels remained essentially unchanged in the House of Commons, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Manitoba during 1983. Québec caucuses received the largest increase (30%), followed by the Government Caucus in New Brunswick (23%) and the

Government Caucus in Alberta (17%). In both of the latter cases, election results increased the size of the Government Caucus. Saskatchewan caucuses received an 11% increase.

Table 16: CAUCUS SERVICES

a. funding mechanism;
b. restrictions on use of funds
c. employees
d. funding levels

H of C

a. Funding levels established by BOIE – formula based on party standings – first established in 1972
b. Funds are used for staff salaries, rental of convenience copiers and rental of electronic memory typewriters or word processors
c. Government 20; Opposition 18; Third Party 10 – employees of caucus – pay rates are established by caucus – benefits same as H of C employees, including pension – no union
d. (i) research – $200,000 for first 30 Members of each caucus
– $ 8,000 per Member for next 20 Members
– $ 1,000 per Member for additional Members
(Government $603,000, Opposition $542,000, Third Party $285,000)
(ii) Opposition Leaders – 200% of research allowance (Opposition $1,084,086, Third Party $569,718)
(iii) Opposition House Leader
– Opposition $58,000
– Third Party 26,000

NFLD

a. Funding levels established by BOIE – lump sum awarded to each caucus based on representations made by party representatives – first established in 1979 for Government Caucus and pre 1970 for Opposition Caucus
b. Funds are used for operating expenses only
c. Government 11; Opposition 7 – employees of L.A. – pay rates established by BOIE – benefits same as other L.A. staff, including pension – no union
d. Government – $15,724; Opposition – $6,276

PEI

a. Funding levels established by Government – based on recommendation of BOIE – first established in 1979 for Government Caucus and 1971 for Opposition Caucus
b. None
c. Government 2; Opposition 3 – employees of L.A. – hired on contract basis – pay rates established by BOIE – vacation and sickness benefits only – no pension – no union
d. Government – $10,000; Opposition $40,000

NS

a. Funding levels established by BOIE – formula based on party standings – first established in 1973
b. Funds cannot be transferred between categories
c. Government 5; Opposition 5; Third Party 2; Fourth Party 1 – employees of L.A. – pay rates tied to civil service standards – benefits same as other L.A. staff, including pension – – no union
d. (i) staff – $5,300 per Member, excluding Ministers and Speaker (Government $89,500; Opposition $81,700)
(ii) operations – $175 per Member per month, excluding Speaker (Government $64,500; Opposition $31,200)
(iii) special allowance – Third party $77,900; Fourth Party $19,800

NB

a. Funding levels established by BOIE – based on budgeted figures determined by Clerk of the House – first established in 1981
b. None
c. Government 4; Opposition 4 (3 secretarial and 1 research) – employees of L.A. – pay rates established by BOIE – benefits same as other L.A. staff, including pension – no union
d. Government $112,021; Opposition $90,481; Third Party $6,000; Opposition Leader receives additional $181,838 staff allowance

QUÉ

a. Funding levels established by BOIE – BOIE establishes total allocation and party leaders negotiate the breakdown among caucuses – first established in 1974
b. None
c. Number of employees unknown (fluctuates widely); employees of caucus – pay rates established by caucus – benefits established by BOIE, including pension – no union
d. $488,000 total divided between caucuses (Government $260,000; Opposition $228,000)

ONT

a. Funding levels established by BOIE – formula based on party standings – first established in 1975
b. None – expenditures are monitored by L.A.

CAUCUS SERVICES (con't)

Administrative staff and are subject to audit by Provincial Auditor

c. Government 75; Opposition 61; Third Party 49 – employees of caucus – pay rates for secretaries established by BOIE – pay rates for other employees established by caucus – group insurance, hospital, dental & pension provided by L.A. – all other benefits provided by caucus – 1 caucus unionized

d. (i) administration – $10,776 per Member (Government $754,300, Opposition $355,600, Third Party $237,100)
(ii) Research – $11,545 per Member, excluding Minister; 30 Member minimum for all recognized parties (Government $473,300, Opposition $381,000, Third Party $346,400)
(iii) Opposition Leaders – Opposition $326,300, Third Party $267,200
(iv) Opposition House Leaders – – Opposition $40,800, Third Party $40,800

MAN

a. Funding levels established by statute – formula based on party standings – first established pre 1970

b. All operating expenditures are processed by L.A. and are subject to audit by Provincial Auditor

c. Government 5; Opposition 5 – employees are civil servants – pay rates established by BOIE – benefits same as other civil servants, including pension – no union

d. Allowance for secretarial staff and research based on $1,000 per Member (Government $32,000; Opposition $23,000; Speaker $1,000; Independent $1,000)

SASK

a. Funding levels established by BOIE for research and by statute for secretarial assistance and operating expenses – formula based on party standings – L.A. supplies dictating equipment, copiers, telephones, stationery and supplies – first established 1976

b. Funds for caucus research are separate from operational grants

c. Number of employees unknown; research staff are employees of caucus – pay rates established by caucus – benefits provided by caucus – no union; secretaries are employees of L.A., pay rates established by L.A. – benefits same as civil servants, including pension – no union

d.
(i) administration – $3,650 per Member, excluding Speaker, Ministers and Opposition Leader (Government $109,550; Opposition $25,550)
(ii) secretarial – $21,911 per caucus + $99,383 for Government and $29,497 for Opposition Members' secretaries
(iii) research – Government $223,220; Opposition $80,450
(iv) Opposition Leader – $73,042

ALTA

a. Funding levels established by BOIE – based on budget submissions prepared by each caucus – first established pre 1970

b. Funds may not be transferred among caucuses

c. Government 20; Opposition 6; Independents 5 – employees of L.A. – researchers hired on contract – secretaries hired for length of parliament – pay rates established by caucus – benefits same as other L.A. staff, including pension – no union.

d. Government $869,267; Opposition $330,000; Independents $200,000; funds divided into 17 categories for each caucus – salaries – wages – contract staff – employee contributions – staff training – travel – advertising – car insurance – postage – rental of equipment – telephones – repair and maintenance – professional services – data services – hospitality – supplies – purchase of equipment

BC

a. Funding levels established by Speaker – based on party standings – first established 1972

b. Funds restricted to secretarial and research

c. Government 19; Opposition 32 – employees of L.A. – pay rates and benefits established by caucus – no union

d. (i) secretarial and research staff – $24,000 per Member + $1,200 per week for Government and $2,000 per week for Opposition when House sitting
(ii) Opposition Leader receives additional allowance

NFLD

a. Members do not belong to party causes – NWT operates on basis of consensus government

b. c. d. N/A

YUKON

a. Funding levels established by BOIE – based on party standings – first established 1978

b. Funds are used for research services only

CAUCUS SERVICES (con't)

c. Government 1; Opposition 1 – employees of caucus – pay rates and benefits established by caucus – no union

d. Government $18,000; Opposition $36,000 secretarial support services and operational expenses provided by L.A. free of charge

RESEARCH SERVICES

Saskatchewan and the House of Commons are the only jurisdictions which provide funds for hiring a personal research assistant for Members. In both cases no specific funding is allocated for research, but Members may use funds allocated for secretarial or constituency office staff to hire research assistants, at the option of the Member.

There is at least one researcher hired by each caucus in Ottawa, Québec, Ontario, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, B.C. and the Yukon. In P.E.I. only the Opposition Caucus has one and in N.W.T. one researcher is hired by the Legislature to provide assistance to all Members.

Separate research departments have been established in the Legislative Libraries of Ontario, Québec and Alberta and the Federal Library of Parliament. Staff in these organizations provide non-partisan research to Members and, with the exception of Québec, to Committees of the House.

Table 17: RESEARCH SERVICES

a. personal research assistant
b. caucus research
c. Library research

H of C

a. Member may hire personal research assistant out of staff allowance – no restriction on numbers – employee of Member – pay rate established by Member within total staff allowance

b. Government 20; Opposition 18; Third Party 10 – employees of caucus – pay rates established by caucus – benefits same as H of C employees, including pension – no union

c. 53 employees – department established pre 1970 – employees of Library of Parliament – non-partisan research provided to Members, Ministers, Party Leaders, senior H of C employees and Committees

NFLD

a. None

b. 1 researcher per caucus – pay rate established by BOIE – present rate is $19,337 – employees of L.A. – no union

c. Total staff of 3 who all assist with research – services provided to Members, Ministers and Party Leaders, not Committees

PEI

a. None

b. Government 0; Opposition 1 – pay rate established by BOIE – present rate is $37,650 – employee of L.A. – hired on contract basis – no union

c. Legislative Library is not part of L.A.

NS

a. None

b. Included in TABLE 16

c. No separate research department in Legislative Library

NB

a. None

b. 1 researcher per caucus – employees of L.A. – pay rates established by BOIE – benefits same as other L.A. staff, including pension – no union

c. Legislative Library is not part of L.A.

QUÉ

a. None

b. Number of employees unknown (fluctuates widely) – pay rate established by Party Leader – employees of caucus – no union

c. 6 employees – department established in 1971 – employees are civil servants – research provided to Members, Ministers and Party Leaders, not Committees

ONT

a. None

b. Government 12; Opposition 9; Third Party 7 – pay rate established by caucus – employees of caucus – 1 caucus is unionized

c. 12 regular and 2 contract employees – department established in 1979 – employees of L.A. – non-partisan research provided to Members, Ministers, Party Leaders and Committees

MAN

a. None

b. Government 1; Opposition 1 – pay rate established by BOIE – employees are civil servants – no union

c. Legislative Library is not part of L.A.

SASK

a. Member may hire personal research assistant out of secretarial allowance or constituency office allowance – no restriction on numbers

RESEARCH SERVICES (con't)

b Number of employees unknown – employees of caucus – pay rates established by caucus – pay rates established by caucus – benefits provided by caucus – no union
c. No separate research department in Legislative Library

ALTA
a. None
b. Government 8; Opposition 3; Independents 3 – pay rates established by caucus – range is $1,400 to $2,875 per month – employees of L.A. – hired on contract basis – no union
c. 6 employees – employees of L.A. – non-partisan research provided to Members, Ministers, Party Leaders, Committees and officers of House

BC
a. None
b. Government 4; Opposition 8 – pay rates established by caucus – employees of L.A. – no union
c. No separate research department in Legislative Library

NWT
a. None
b. 1 researcher – employed by L.A. – provides research assistance to all Private Members
c. Legislative Library is not part of L.A.

YUKON
a. None
b. Government 1; Opposition 1 – employees of caucus – pay rates and benefits established by caucus – no union
c. Legislative Library is not part of L.A.

The Legislative Library is part of the Assembly in 7 jurisdictions. In B.C. the Library is part of the Department of Provincial Secretary, but comes under the jurisdiction of the Speaker when the House is in session. The Legislative Library is also part of a Government department in New Brunswick, Manitoba and P.E.I. and no Library exists in either Territorial Legislature.

Table 18: LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY

a. number of employees
b. 1983–84 budget
c. number of employees in research department

H of C
a. 234 person years
b. $9,376,000
c. 53

NFLD
a. 3
b. Budget figure unavailable
c. No separate research department

PEI
a. Legislative Library collection is maintained by Provincial Library Service which is part of Department of Education
b. N/A
c. No separate research department

NS
a. 3
b. $171,200
c. No separate research department

NB
a. Legislative Library not part of L.A.
b. N/A
c. No separate research department

QUÉ
a. 83
b. $2,780,200
c. 6

ONT
a. 82
b. $3,095,700
c. 14

MAN
a. Legislative Library not part of L.A.
b. N/A
c. No separate research department

SASK
a. 11
b. $527,920
c. No separate research department

ALTA
a. 24
b. $1,064,730
c. 6

BC
a. 34 – Legislative Library under jurisdiction of Speaker when House is sitting and Provincial Secretary when House not sitting –
b. Included in budget of Provincial Secretary
c. No separate research department

NWT
a. None
b. N/A
c. N/A

YUKON
a. None
b. N/A
c. N/A

In 5 Legislatures (House of Commons, Québec, Alberta, B.C. and N.W.T.) a Law Clerk, separate from the Legislative Counsel, is available to provide drafting assistance to Private Members. In each case, except N.W.T. where the Clerk is employed by the Legislature on a consulting basis from the local bar, the Clerk is an officer of the House.

Administrative Structures

LEGISLATIVE BUDGETS

The nation-wide concern with restraint in the public sector is reflected in the spending levels and program development in the various legislative jurisdictions. Not only have indemnities paid to elected officials risen, for the most part, at rates at or below inflation levels, but increases in Budget figures for legislative operations have been drastically reduced during the past year.

Three jurisdictions (Québec, B.C. and N.W.T.) have actually reduced spending levels during fiscal 1983–84. Of the remaining 10 Legislatures, 7 passed increases in the 5–6% range, and only Manitoba and Alberta increased by more than 10% (16.08% and 16.98%, respectively).

In 1982, the philosophy of restraint had not yet become entrenched in the minds of legislative administrators. Nine jurisdictions increased their budgets that year by at least 10%, and in 3 of these instances the increase exceeded 20%. Only Ontario and the Yukon reduced spending in the 1982–83 fiscal period.

Table 19: LEGISLATIVE BUDGETS

a. 1983-1984
b. 1982-1983
c. % increase

H of C	*a.*	$147,885,000	MAN	*a.*	$ 4,143,500
	b.	$140,639,000		*b.*	$ 3,579,500
	c.	5.15%		*c.*	16.08%
NFLD	*a.*	$ 6,252,600	SASK	*a.*	$ 7,808,790
	b.	$ 5,895,900		*b.*	$ 7,377,370
	c.	6.61%		*c.*	5.84%
PEI	*a.*	$ 1,081,900	ALTA	*a.*	$11,057,929
	b.	$ 1,025,800		*b.*	$ 9,452,241
	c.	5.46%		*c.*	16.98%
NS	*a.*	$ 4,342,500	BC	*a.*	$ 7,610,000
	b.	$ 4,086,000		*b.*	$ 8,343,500
	c.	6.27%		*c.*	− 9.63%
NB	*a.*	$ 4,423,700	NWT	*a.*	$ 2,953,000
	b.	$ 4,254,500		*b.*	$ 3,300,000
	c.	3.97%		*c.*	−11.75%
QUÉ	*a.*	$ 58,697,800	YUKON	*a.*	$ 1,040,000
	b.	$ 69,284,500		*b.*	$ 953,000
	c.	−18.03%		*c.*	9.12%
ONT	*a.*	$ 34,296,300			
	b.	$ 32,407,000			
	c.	5.82%			

EMPLOYEES OF THE LEGISLATURE

Staffing levels in legislative departments remained relatively stable during the past year. Saskatchewan and B.C. increased their full-time complements by the largest proportion (from 14 to 25 in Saskatchewan, and from 56 to 61 in B.C.), while 6 jurisdictions remained at or below last year's figures.

Legislatures are divided equally between those whose employees are part of the civil service and those who have taken steps to sever this link. The 6 jurisdictions whose legislative employees are independent from the government service are the House of Commons, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan

and B.C. P.E.I. has no full-time legislative employees and administrative functions are performed by the Executive Council office.

Table 20: EMPLOYEES OF THE LEGISLATURE

a. total full time
b. total sessional
c. Clerk's Office
d. Administration Office
e. Legislative Library
f. Hansard Reporting Service
g. Parliamentary Relations Office
h. status of employees

H of C

a. 1,756 person years
b. 0
c. 149 person years - includes Law, Committees, Journals, Table Research Branches, Parliamentary Relations, Information Services
d. 642 person years - includes Comptroller, Human Resources, Reporting Services, Support Services, Internal Audit, Purchasing and Materials Management; NOTE: Sergeant-at-Arms heads a third branch with 965 person years - includes Security, Restaurant, Members' Services and Purchasing
e. 234 person years
f. 157 person years
g. 20 person years - serves both H of C and Senate ($1,830,000 budget for H of C section)
h. Employees of H of C - no union

NFLD

a. 39
b. 13
c. 6
d. Included in Clerk's Office
e. 3
f. 11 full-time
g. None
h. Employees of L.A. - not civil servants - no union

PEI

a. 0
b. 18
c. 16 - all sessional
d. Included in Clerk's office
e. Legislative Library collection is maintained by Provincial Library Service which is part of Department of Education
f. No Hansard
g. None
h. Casual employees of L.A. - no union

NS

a. 18
b. 38
c. 1 full-time, 1 sessional
d. 6 - includes Personnel and Finance
e. 3
f. 7
g. None
h. Civil servants - no union

NB

a. 32
b. 38
c. 7
d. Included in Clerk's Office
e. Legislative Library not part of L.A.
f. 19
g. None
h. Employees of L.A. - not civil servants - no union

QUÉ

a. 973 (inc. 170 in Prov Aud's Office, 36 in Ombudsman's Office & 179 in Election Office)
b. 255 (inc. 2 in Prov Aud's Office, 1 in Ombudsman's Office & 2 in Election Office)
c. Included in Administration Office
d. 152 - includes Clerk's Office, Personnel and Finance
e. 83
f. 80
g. 9 ($345,100 budget)
h. Civil servants - some employees unionized

ONT

a. 257
b. 11
c. 23 (10 in Committees Branch)
d. 34 - includes Personnel, Finance and Director's Office
e. 82
f. 47
g. 10 ($271,300 budget)
h. Employees of L.A. - not civil servants - no union

MAN

a. 19
b. 33
c. 5
d. Personnel and Finance functions for L.A. are performed by Clerk of Internal Economy who is also Director of Administration for 2 Government ministries - he has staff of 11 but they are not all associated with L.A.
e. Legislative Library not part of L.A.
f. 1 full-time - 15 sessional
g. None
h. Full-time employees are civil servants

EMPLOYEES OF THE LEGISLATURE (con't)

SASK
a. 25
b. 56
c. 14 full-time
d. Included in Clerk's Office
e. 11
f. 1 full-time - 34 sessional
g. None
h. Employees of L.A. - not civil servants - some employees unionized

ALTA
a. 80
b. 20
c. 13
d. Included in Clerk's Office
e. 24
f. 8 full-time - 14 sessional
g. None
h. Civil servants - no union

BC
a. 61
b. 102
c. 1 full-time - 1 sessional - 3 Table Officers retained on annual basis
d. Personnel and Finance functions for L.A. performed by Speaker's Office
e. 34 - included in budget of Provincial Secretary; Legislative Library under jurisdiction of Speaker when House sitting and Provincial Secretary when House not sitting
f. 11 full-time - 6 sessional
g. None
h. Employees of L.A. - except Library employees who are civil servants

NWT
a. 12
b. 30
c. 12
d. Included in Clerk's Office
e. No Legislative Library
f. 1 contract - 13 sessional
g. 1 ($42,000 budget)
h. Civil servants - some employees unionized

YUKON
a. 6
b. 1
c. 5 full-time - 1 sessional
d. Included in Clerk's Office
e. No Legislative Library
f. Handled under contract
g. None
h. Civil servants - one employee unionized

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF THE LEGISLATURE

The name of the body responsible for the financial management of the Legislature varies among jurisdictions. In 3 instances it is a Standing Committee of the House, while in 9 others it is called a Board, Commission or Office. B.C. is the only jurisdiction that has not taken the step of establishing some sort of body to regulate legislative finances, leaving responsibility in the hands of the Speaker.

For the sake of simplicity we have referred to the management body as the "BOIE" in all Tables.

Table 21: BODY RESPONSIBLE FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF HOUSE

H of C	Board of Internal Economy
NFLD	Internal Economy Commission
PEI	Standing Committee on Internal Economy
NS	Legislative Internal Economy Board
NB	Legislative Administrative Committee
QUÉ	Office of the National Assembly
ONT	Board of Internal Economy
MAN	Legislative Assembly Management Commission
SASK	Board of Internal Economy
ALTA	Select Standing Committee on Members' Services
BC	Speaker
NWT	Management and Services Board
YUKON	Board of Internal Economy

Québec and Manitoba underwent extensive change in the management structure during the past year, in each case removing Ministers of the Crown from membership on the management body and replacing them with Private Members from both the Government and Opposition Parties.

8 of the 12 jurisdictions with some form of management body have included representatives from the Opposition party. The N.W.T. has no formal Opposition Party so must be considered separately. Ministry representatives are on 8 Boards or Committees of Internal Economy, and only Nova Scotia, Québec, Manitoba and Alberta have management bodies comprised exclusively of Private Members, including representatives of the Opposition.

Table 22: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF LEGISLATURE

a. composition of management body
b. reporting relationship
c. average number of meetings per year

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF LEGISLATURE (con't)

d. minutes of meetings
e. powers and duties of management body
f. Estimates reviewed by management body

H of C
a. Speaker is Chairman, 4 Ministers, no Opposition representation
b. Decisions are tabled in the House within 10 days of the start of each session
c. 8–10 meetings
d. Become public when tabled in House
e. Outlined in statute
f. H of C Estimates

NFLD
a. Speaker is Chairman, Deputy Speaker, 3 Ministers; no Opposition representation
b. BOIE does not report to House
c. 15 meetings
d. Not published nor available to public
e. Outlined in statute
f. L.A. Estimates - includes Ombudsman's Office

PEI
a. Speaker is Chairman, Opposition Leader, Government House Leader
b. Committee has authority to report to House
c. 6 meetings
d. Not published nor available to public
e. Nowhere outlined
f. Informal review of draft Estimates of L.A. only - formal review is by Treasury Board

NS
a. Speaker is Chairman, 5 Private Members from Government; no Opposition representation
b. BOIE does not report to House
c. 8-10 meetings
d. Not published nor available to public
e. Outlined in statute
f. BOIE does not review any Estimates

NB
a. Speaker is Chairman, 2 Ministers, 2 Private Members from each of Government and Opposition
c. 11 meetings
d. Not published nor available to public
e. Outlined in Standing Rules of House
f. L.A. Estimates

QUÉ
a. Speaker is Chairman, 4 Private Members from Government, 3 Opposition Members - Members are paid annual indemnity of $1,755
b. Copies of all decisions of BOIE are tabled in House
c. Every two weeks since establishment
d. Not published - available to public after tabling
e. Outlined in statute
f. L.A., Ombudsman, Provincial Auditor, Election Office

ONT
a. Speaker is Chairman, 3 Ministers, 1 Private Member from each party
b. BOIE does not report to House
c. 14 meetings
d. Published periodically - available to public within 48 hours of meeting
e. Outlined in statute
f. L.A., Ombudsman, Provincial Auditor, Election Office, Election Finances Commission

MAN
a. Speaker is Chairman, 4 Private Members from Government, 3 Opposition Members - Members are paid allowance of $50 per day
b. BOIE has authority to report to House - must do so at least once per year
c. Not yet operative
d. Not yet determined
e. Outlined in statute
f. L.A., Election Office, Ombudsman, Provincial Auditor

SASK
a. Speaker is Chairman, 2 Ministers, 2 Private Members from each of Government and official Opposition
b. BOIE has authority to report to House
c. 9 meetings
d. Not published nor available to public
e. Outlined in statute
f. L.A. Estimates and Legislative Library Estimates

ALTA
a. Speaker is Chairman, 7 Private Members from Government, 2 Opposition Members
b. BOIE has authority to report to House - does so on ad hoc basis
c. 12 meetings
d. Published and available to public
e. Nowhere outlined
f. L.A. Estimates

BC
a. b. c. d. e. f. N/A

NWT
a. Speaker is Chairman, 2 Ministers, 2 Private Members, including Chairman of Standing Committee on Finance
b. BOIE has authority to report to House - does so on ad hoc basis
c. 8 meetings

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF LEGISLATURE (con't)	
	d. Not published nor available to public *e.* Terms of reference agreed to by BOIE *f.* L.A. Estimates
YUKON	*a.* Speaker is Chairman, Opposition Leader, Government Leader *b.* BOIE has authority to report to House - does so on ad hoc basis *c.* 4 meetings *d.* Not published nor available to public *e.* Outlined in resolution of House *f.* L.A. Estimates

The Estimates review process for Legislative Budgets in all cases except Nova Scotia, involves review by the financial management body before tabling in the House. In some cases the Budgets receive further review or adjustment by Treasury or Management Board of Cabinet, while in others approval by the Legislature's management body is final.

Table 23 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES REVIEW PROCEDURE

H of C	Prepared by H of C Administrative Staff - approved by Speaker and BOIE - delivered to Minister of Finance - included in Government Estimates and tabled in House by President of Treasury Board - referred to Standing Committee on Management and Members' Services - defended by Speaker and H of C staff
NFLD	Prepared by Clerk and Speaker - approved by BOIE - delivered to Minister of Finance for inclusion in Government Estimates and tabled in House - referred to Commmittee of Whole House - defended by Minister of Finance
PEI	Prepared by Office of the Clerk - draft Estimates reviewed by BOIE and submitted to Treasury Board - Estimates approved by Treasury Board - tabled in House by Minister of Finance and Tourism - referred to Committee of Whole House - defended by Premier
NS	Prepared by Administrative Staff - approved by Management Board - tabled in House by Minister of Management Board - referred to Committee of Whole House - defended by Speaker
NB	Prepared by Clerk's Office - approved by BOIE - delivered to Minister of Finance for inclusion in Government Estimates - tabled in House by Minister of Finance - referred to Committee of Supply - defended by Premier
QUÉ	Prepared by Administrative staff - approved by BOIE - delivered to Minister of Finance for inclusion in Government Estimates - tabled in House by Minister of Finance - referred to Committee of Whole House - defended by Speaker
ONT	Prepared by Administrative staff - approved by BOIE - delivered to Treasurer for inclusion in Government Estimates - tabled in House by Treasurer - referred to Standing Committee on General Government - defended by Speaker and other BOIE members
MAN	Prepared by L.A. staff - approved by BOIE - delivered to Minister of Finance for inclusion in Government Estimates - tabled in House by Minister of Finance - referred to Committee - defended by Member of BOIE designated by Speaker
SASK	Prepared by Clerk's Office - approved by BOIE - delivered to Minister of Finance for inclusion in Government Estimates - tabled in House by Minister of Finance - referred to either a Standing Committee or Committee on Estimates - defended by a Cabinet Minister who is on BOIE and who has been designated by Speaker
ALTA	Prepared by internal committee of department heads - submitted to Director of Administration and Clerk Assistant for co-ordination - approved by BOIE - delivered to Cabinet Priority Committee for final review - tabled in House by Government House Leader as part of "Estimates of L.A. & Government" - referred to Committee of Supply - defended by BOIE members other than Speaker
BC	Prepared by Speaker - forwarded to Treasury Board - included in Government Estimates - tabled in House by Minister of Finance - referred to Committee of Whole - defended by Provincial Secretary
NWT	Prepared by Clerk - approved by BOIE - tabled in House by Minister of Finance - referred to Committee of Whole - defended by Member of BOIE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES REVIEW PROCEDURE (con't)	
YUKON	Prepared by Clerk - approved by BOIE - delivered to Minister of Finance for inclusion in Government Estimates - tabled in House by Minister of Finance - referred to Committee of Whole House - defended by Government and Opposition Leaders

HANSARD

Hansard coverage of House proceedings is present in all jurisdictions except P.E.I. During the past year P.E.I. has begun to transcribe and print Question Period.

Final copy of Hansard for sittings of the House is produced within 48 hours in all jurisdictions except New Brunswick and N.W.T. It generally takes longer to finalize the copy of Committee meetings.

The House of Commons and New Brunswick are presently the only jurisdictions which provide bilingual Hansard. Manitoba has a resolution currently before the Legislature which would ensure bilingual coverage.

The House of Commons, Québec and Saskatchewan provide video as well as printed Hansard coverage of all proceedings of the House.

Table 24:	HANSARD REPORTING SERVICE
	a. budget *b. service*
H of C	a. $5,100,000 b. Bilingual service provided in-house - printed by Queen's Printer - final House copy produced in 24 hours - 36 to 72 hours for Committees
NFLD	a. Unavailable b. No bilingual service - printed by Government department - final House copy produced in 24 hours - 3 to 4 days for Committees
PEI	a. No Hansard b. Proceedings are recorded on tape but only transcribed on request - Question Period is transcribed and printed in-house for next day delivery
NS	a. $273,500 b. No bilingual service - printed by Government department - final House copy produced by morning following debate - 2 days for Committees
NB	a. Integrated in Clerk's Office vote b. Bilingual service - printed by commercial firm - several months required to produce final copy for House and Committees
QUÉ	a. $3,019,700 b. No bilingual service - printed by commercial firm - final House and Committee copy produced in 48 hours
ONT	a. $2,580,500 b. No bilingual service - printed by commercial firm - final House copy produced in 48 hours - up to 10 days for Committees
MAN	a. $392,800 b. Bilingual service to be provided - printed by commercial firm - final House copy produced in 24 hours - 3 days for Committees
SASK	a. $552,440 b. No bilingual service - typeset in-house - printed by commercial firm - final House and Committee copy produced in 24 hours
ALTA.	a. $741,292 b. No bilingual service - printed by commercial firm - final House and Committee copy produced in 48 hours.
BC	a. $683,000 b. No bilingual service - printed by Queen's Printer - final House copy produced in 36 hours - Committees not printed
NWT	a. $365,000 b. No bilingual service - printed by commercial firm - final House copy produced in 4 days
YUKON	a. $120,900 b. No bilingual service - transcribed and printed by commercial firm - final House copy produced in 48 hours - time to produce Committees is variable

MEDIA COVERAGE

Each Legislature has a Press Gallery with representatives from the television, radio and print media.

Table 25: LEGISLATIVE PRESS GALLERY

H of C	266 members;		ONT	58 members:
	- news agencies	70		- radio 10
	- TV	70		- TV 14
	- radio	53		- print 34
	- newspapers	63	MAN	Unknown
	- magazines	13		
	- free lance	15	SASK	39 members:
				- radio 14
NFLD	7 members:			- TV 2
	- radio	3		- print 23
	- TV	2		
	- print	2	ALTA	28 members:
				- radio 10
PEI	6 - 7 members:			- TV 3
	- radio	2-3		- print 15
	- TV	2		
	- print	2	BC	32 members:
				- radio 5
NS	21 members:			- TV 7
	- radio	10		- print 20
	- TV	4		
	- print	7	NWT	17 members:
				- radio 9
NB	18 members:			- TV 2
	- radio	8		- print 6
	- TV	4		
	- print	6	YUKON	5 members:
				- radio 2
QUÉ	82 members:			- TV 1
	- radio	24		- print 2
	- TV	15		
	- print	20		
	- cameras	15		
	- researchers	8		

As mentioned earlier, the House of Commons, Québec and Saskatchewan provide gavel-to-gavel video-Hansard coverage of House proceedings. Manitoba has a system of verbatim televised coverage of Question Period, which is distributed by a commercial network throughout the province. Ontario, Alberta and Yukon allow commercial television stations unlimited access to the Chamber. The other jurisdictions have no regular television coverage of the House; filming is only permitted on special occassions such as the Opening of a session or the Budget Speech, and only with the permission of the Speaker or the House.

In all jurisdictions except New Brunswick, P.E.I. and Saskatchewan, the Speaker is responsible for media coverage of House proceedings. In New Brunswick the Legislative Administration Committee controls access, and in Saskatchewan it is regulated by a Committee on Communications, chaired by the Speaker. There is no formal regulatory body in P.E.I.

SPEAKER'S JURISDICTION

The House of Commons, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Québec are the only legislative bodies where the Speaker has jurisdiction over the entire Legislative Building. In all other cases the Chamber and legislative precincts are within his control, but jurisdiction over the rest of the Building is shared with the Government or some outside body. The same 4 jurisdictions are the only ones where the Speaker is solely responsible for security and maintenance in the Legislative Building. In all other cases these functions are either shared between the Speaker and a Government department, or performed exclusively by the Government.

House Statistics

COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSE

Between September 1, 1982 and September 1, 1983, general elections were held in New Brunswick, P.E.I., Alberta and B.C. In all cases the Government Party was returned to power and in 3 out of 4 cases, with an increased majority.

Table 26: CONFIGURATION OF HOUSES

		At Dissolution	*At Election*	*Change*
PEI	PC	21	21	0
	LIB	10	11	+1
	Vacant	1	0	−1
NB	PC	29	39	+10
	LIB	26	18	−8
	NDP	0	1	+1
	Vacant	3	0	−3
ALTA	PC	73	75	+2
	SOC CREDIT	3	0	−3
	NDP	1	2	+1
	WCC	1	0	−1
	INDEPENDENT	1	2	+1
BC	SOC CREDIT	31	35	+4
	NDP	26	22	−4

There was a relatively small proportion of Members elected for the first time in each jurisdiction. One reason for this was the fact that each province returned the same party to power, with a relatively small change in the configuration of each House.

Table 27: NUMBER OF NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS

Jurisdiction	*Number*	*% Change*
NB	16/58	27.58
ALTA	19/79	24.05
BC	12/57	21.05
PEI	6/32	18.75

The composition of the remaining 7 Houses remained essentially unchanged between 1982 and 1983, with the exception of variations due to vacancies and by-elections held during the year.

Table 28: COMPOSITION OF HOUSE

a. number of elected Members
b. distribution of Members
c. date of last distribution of seats
d. average number of sitting days per yr

H of C

a. 282
b. Government 147
Opposition 103
3rd Party 31
Independent 1
Vacant 0
c. 1976
d. 177 days

NFLD

a. 52
b. Government 44
Opposition 7
Vacant 1
c. 1979
d. 97 days

COMPOSITION OF HOUSE (con't)

PEI
a. 32
b. Government 21
Opposition 11
c. 1962 - 63
d. 40 days

NS
a. 52
b. Government 38
Opposition 12
3rd Party 1
4th Party 1
c. 1978
d. 80 days

NB
a. 58
b. Government 39
Opposition 18
3rd Party 1
c. 1974
d. 65 days

QUÉ
a. 122
b. Government 73
Opposition 46
Independent 2
Vacant 1
c. 1981
d. 90 days

ONT
a. 125
b. Government 69
Opposition 33
3rd Party 22
Vacant 1
c. 1975
d. 106 days

MAN
a. 57
b. Government 33
Opposition 23
Independent 1
c. 1980
d. 90 days

SASK
a. 64
b. Government 56
Opposition 8
c. 1980
d. 76 days

ALTA
a. 79 days
b. Government 75
Opposition 2
Independent 2
c. 1982
d. 80 days

BC
a. 57
b. Government 35
Opposition 22
c. 1979
d. 95 days

NWT
a. 22
b. Consensus Government
c. 1984
d. 60 days

YUKON
a. 16
b. Government 9
Opposition 6
Independent 1
c. 1982
d. 40 days

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

All jurisdictions have a system of Standing Committees comprised of Members of the House, represented in proportion to the distribution of seats in the Legislature. In addition, all jurisdictions except Québec and Yukon have at least one Select or Special Committee constituted on an ad hoc basis during 1983 to investigate a specific subject matter of interest to the Legislature.

All Legislatures except Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Alberta, B.C. and the Yukon use Standing Committees to review Bills after they have received approval in principle from the House, but before the Legislature is prepared to bring them to a third and final vote. Standing Committees are also used to review Department Estimates.

As a general rule, Committees are staffed by personnel from the Clerk's Office. Additional staff, if required, is often provided either by the research department of the Legislative Library, if available, or through outside consulting services, arranged with the prior approval of the Board or Committee of Internal Economy.

Table 29 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

	a. number of Standing Committees *b. number of Select Committees* *c. Committee budget approval mechanism*
H of C	a. 24 (includes 4 joint with Senate) b. 7 c. Committees do not have budgets - individual Committees establish requirements and H of C absorbs all costs - BOIE does not approve expenditures
NFLD	a. 4 b. 3 c. Committee budgets are approved by BOIE
PEI	a. 9 b. 3 c. Individual Committees do not have separate budgets - lump sum is placed in L.A. Estimates and distributed to individual Committees as required - method of distribution is determined by BOIE
NS	a. 15 b. 5 c. Committee budgets are approved by Management Board
NB	a. 11 b. 5 c. Committee budgets are approved by BOIE
QUÉ	a. 9 b. 0 c. Individual Committees do not have separate budgets - lump sum is placed in

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES (con't)	
	L.A. Estimates and distributed to individual Committees as required
ONT	*a.* 8 *b.* 1 *c.* Committee budgets are approved by BOIE
MAN	*a.* 11 *b.* 0 *c.* Committee budgets are approved by BOIE
SASK	*a.* 10 *b.* 1 *c.* Committee budgets are approved by BOIE
ALTA	*a.* 7 *b.* 2 *c.* Committee budgets are approved by BOIE
BC	*a.* 9 *b.* 1 *c.* Committees have no budgets or staff unless authorized by L.A.
NWT	*a.* 5 *b.* 3 *c.* Committee budgets are approved by BOIE
YUKON	*a.* 3 *b.* 0 *c.* Individual Committees do not have separate budgets – lump sum is placed in L.A. Estimates and distributed to individual Committees as required

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

The number of Government-sponsored Bills passed into law during the past 5 years is listed in the following table. With respect to 1983, the figure represents the total up to November 1, 1983. Several provinces, such as Ontario, Québec, Newfoundland and the House of Commons, hold fall sittings, and in these instances the figures in the Table will not necessarily reflect the total number of pieces of legislation passed during 1983.

Table 30: GOVERNMENT BUSINESS					
	Number of public bills passed:				
	a. 1983	*b. 1982*	*c. 1981*	*d. 1980*	*e. 1979*
H of C	*a.* 28	*b.* 37	*c.* 41	*d.* 45	*e.* 15
NFLD	*a.* 24	*b.* 68	*c.* 90	*d.* 44	*e.* 54
PEI	*a.* 46	*b.* 36	*c.* 40	*d.* 54	*e.* 20
NS	*a.* 67	*b.* 93	*c.* 69	*d.* 65	*e.* 60
NB	*a.* 104	*b.* 79	*c.* 90	*d.* 66	*e.* 79
QUÉ	*a.* 44	*b.* 43	*c.* 33	*d.* 39	*e.* 87
ONT	*a.* 33	*b.* 62	*c.* 74	*d.* 84	*e.* 115
MAN	*a.* 114	*b.* 53	*c.* 41	*d.* 81	*e.* 51
SASK	*a.* 120	*b.* 58	*c.* 113	*d.* 124	*e.* 106
ALTA	*a.* 67	*b.* 41	*c.* 97	*d.* 91	*e.* 73
BC	*a.* 24	*b.* 78	*c.* 30	*d.* 60	*e.* 35
NWT	*a.* 46	*b.* 44	*c.* 43	*d.* 41	*e.* 20
YUKON	*a.* 11	*b.* 35	*c.* 36	*d.* 59	*e.* 29

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Five jurisdictions have recently undertaken some form of review of conflict of interest guidelines. The House of Commons has established a Royal Commission which is presently in the midst of its investigation. There is no statutory regulation of conflict of interest in the federal House. The Prime Minister's Office has established guidelines for Ministers but no regulations apply to Private Members.

Prince Edward Island has constituted a Select Committee to investigate conflict of interest. In Newfoundland, the *Conflict of Interest for Ministers Act* was passed

during 1982. It gives the Premier authority to establish standards to be observed by Ministers in the conduct of their affairs. Guidelines covering Ministers and Private Members have been outlined in statute in Newfoundland since 1973.

Manitoba passed an act regulating conflict of interest for both Private Members and Cabinet Ministers during 1983. It has not yet been proclaimed. In Québec, Bill 90, which became law in December of 1982, outlines conflict of interest guidelines for Members of the National Assembly.

As of November 1983, ten of the thirteen jurisdictions have some form of guidelines covering conflict of interest by Ministers of the Crown. Only six of these provinces have also established regulations for Private Members.

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